

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., April 4, 1977, it being first Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chairman

Edward Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David L. McPherson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney (After 11:00 a.m.)

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:

The minutes of the March 21st meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Dew.

Sheriff Coleman met with the Board to ask some guidance as to "what I'm up against" in preparing his budget estimate so he would not have to spend time in preparing a budget that might be cut. The Board advised that he present a realistic budget estimate and it would be given consideration along with all other budget request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved to allow the Sheriff to equip the newly deputized officer with the necessary items to perform his duties as other deputies which would include a radio and gun.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to allow the Sheriff to advertise for four new autos and the Public Safety Commission to advertise for eight new autos to be delivered in July or after.

The following Agreement and Contract was approved upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Williamson:

THIS CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 4th day of April, 1977, by and between the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, party of the first part, also referred to as County, and the Fair Bluff Rescue Squad, Inc., party of the second part, also referred to as the Rescue Squad;

WITNESSETH:

THAT WHEREAS, North Carolina Statutes 153-13 and 160A-487 provides that a County may enter into continuing contracts and pursuant to this authority Columbus County may enter into a continuing contract with a volunteer rescue squad and may make annual appropriations of such funds as may be provided for in this contract; and

WHEREAS, it is desirous that the Rescue Squad make application to the First Union National Bank of North Carolina, Fair Bluff, North Carolina, for a loan in the amount of \$50,000.00; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the mutual promises and agreements herein contained and pursuant to the general power and authority of the Rescue Squad to furnish emergency rescue services and the general power and authority of the County to provide emergency rescue service

for its inhabitants and owners of property within the Fair Bluff Rescue Squad area of coverage, the parties hereto mutually contract and agree as follows:

1. (a) The Rescue Squad agrees to furnish and provide continuing emergency medical service to all residents residing in the Fair Bluff Rescue Squad coverage area, North Carolina, by promptly dispatching, upon call of any resident, property owner or other person, within the said area, the Rescue Squad emergency equipment and adequate personnel to operate the same, and then making diligent efforts to rescue and transport any injured persons.

(b) The Rescue Squad, in providing the said services, shall use its own means and methods which shall not be subject to control, direction or supervision by the Party of the first part. All emergency equipment and personnel necessary and proper for the performance of this contract shall be provided by the Rescue Squad as its sole cost and expense, and all persons engaged in emergency rescue services pursuant to the provisions of the Contract shall be subject to the exclusive control, direction and supervision of the Rescue Squad. The Party of the first part shall not have any right or power with respect to the employment, control, direction, supervision, suspension or discharge of any person who may engage in rescue services or activities in the performance of the obligations imposed by this Contract upon the Rescue Squad in furnishing rescue services to the Party of the first part for the benefit of its residents and property owners.

2. Procedures for giving notification and communicating the existence of need in rescue service to the Rescue Squad shall be established by mutual agreement between the parties hereto and shall be properly publicized.

3. The Party of the first part will adopt such rules and regulations by ordinance or otherwise, as may be necessary and proper to prohibit interference with personnel of the Rescue Squad in the discharge of their duties within the Fair Bluff Rescue Squad Coverage Area, to prohibit damage to and interference with rescue equipment and apparatus of the Rescue Squad and to provide for such other rules and regulations as necessary and proper for the furtherance of the objects of the Contract.

4. (a) As full compensation for the rescue service to be rendered by the Rescue Squad as herein provided, the party of the first part agrees to pay to Fair Bluff Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. a sum equal to \$4,000.00, annually on or before the 1st day of August, or as follows: As soon as the fiscal year shall commence.

(b) That all funds paid to the party of the second part by the party of the first part shall be used exclusively to provide rescue service within the said coverage area, and to pay other legitimate rescue expenses including principal and interest on the aforementioned loan made by the First Union National Bank of North Carolina.

5. This contract shall extend for a term of 10 years from the date of the First Union National Bank of North Carolina loan closing and may be renewed or extended for such term or terms as may be agreed upon by the parties hereto.

6. This contract is hereby pledged to the First Union National Bank of North Carolina as part of the security for a loan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, party of the

first part, has caused this contract to be executed in its name by its Chairman of the Board, attested by its Clerk and the County Seal hereunto affixed, all by authority of the Board of County Commissioners duly given, and the Fair Bluff Rescue Squad, Inc. has caused this contract to be executed in its name by its proper officers and its Corporate Seal hereunto affixed, all by authority of its Board of Directors duly given, as of the day and year first above written.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
COLUMBUS COUNTY

BY: /s/ C. Waldo Marlowe
C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Emogene W. Suggs
Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

SEAL

FAIR BLUFF RESCUE SQUAD, INC.

BY: /s/ E. D. Meares, Jr.
E. D. Meares, Jr., President

ATTEST:

/s/ Evelyn M. Waddell
Evelyn W. Waddell, Secretary

SEAL

A further motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved to void the contract with the Fair Bluff Rescue Squad that was approved in the meeting of January 3, 1977, which approved the Rescue Squad applying for a loan from FHA.

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

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Chapter 146 of the 1947 Session Laws of the General Assembly prohibited the practise of Fortune Telling and Palmistry in Columbus County and 27 other counties; and

WHEREAS, said local act was declared unconstitutional by the Honorable Thomas Lee, Superior Court Judge, presiding over the September 1975, Criminal Session of Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 14, Article 52 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, (N.C.G.S. 14-401.5) is a state wide statute, but including only those counties named therein, which does not include Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Columbus County are of the opinion that the practise of Fortune Telling, Palmistry and acts of Clairvoyance is inimical to the best interest of the citizens of Columbus County and should be prohibited and made unalwful; and

WHEREAS, said County Commissioners are of the opinion that the best interest of Columbus County and its citizens would be protected and enhanced by having Columbus County included within the application of the state wide statute and the practice, thus, rendered unalwful;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commissioners of Columbus County that an act be adopted by the General Assembly including Columbus County within the preview and coverage of Chapter 14, Article 52 of the General Statutes and designated as N.C.G.S. 14-401.5, and that the members of the General Assembly be requested to introduce such a bill for its enactment and that copies of this resolution be mailed to members of the House of Representatives and Senator

representing Columbus County in the General Assembly.

This the 4th day of April, 1977.

/s/ C. W. Marlowe
C. W. Marlowe, Chairman

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to ask the support of the Legislative Delegation representing Columbus County in defeating the following bills that would take revenue from local governments:

House Bill #142 - No property tax on household goods

House Bill #192 - Intangibles Tax Act repealed

House Bill #258 - Food exempt from 1¢ Sales Tax

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that the County invoice the N. C. Agriculture Extension Service for \$250.00 per employee in the Farm Opportunities Program for office rent and operational support. In exchange the County will remit funds to the N. C. Agriculture Extension Service for matching state retirement charges.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that the Board request services back to the County for fire ant control. This service possibility being available was brought to the attention of the Board by Garland McCullen, Extension Chm.

A letter was presented to the Board from Pilice Chief, Jesse Barker, requesting that the Board approve the reclassification of Evelyn Rabon as Secretary/Police Officer I rather than Secretary/Matron. This reclassification would increase her salary to \$646.00 per month. A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved to grant Mr. Barker's request effective April 6th.

The following Proposal was discussed by the Board in relation to the Hospital Board of Trustees:

PROPOSED CHANGE FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COLUMBUS COUNTY HOSPITAL, INC.

The method for appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of Columbus County Hospital, Inc. is hereby changed as follows:

Beginning in January, 1979, the County Commissioners will appoint or reappoint, as the case may be, an at large member to the Board of Trustees of Columbus County Hospital, Inc., said appointment shall be made for the at large member who has the longest tenure on the Board of Trustees of Columbus County Hospital, Inc. and the remaining Board of Trustees shall appoint or reappoint, as the case may be, two other members who represent zone areas. In January, 1981, the County Commissioners shall appoint or reappoint, as the case may be, the remaining at large member and the Board of Trustees of the Columbus County Hospital, Inc. shall appoint or reappoint the remaining three zone members.

Thereafter, the County Commissioners of Columbus County shall continue to appoint or reappoint all at large members and the Board of Trustees of the Columbus County Hospital, Inc. shall continue to appoint or reappoint all zone members as vacancies or expired terms may occur. Each trustee will serve for a period of four years and may be reappointed only for one term of an

additional four years. The Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, shall appoint one active County Commissioner to sit on the Board of Trustees of Columbus County Hospital, Inc. who shall be an ex officio member of said Board without any voting power.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commisisoner Dew and passed that the Proposal be forwarded to the Hospital Board of Trustees for their consideration and reply.

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

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has failed to properly clean out ditches on secondary roads in and for the said County of Columbus, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the said County of Columbus, State of North Carolina, is composed of approximately 900 square miles and is the second largest county geographically according to some surveys of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Columbus County, State of North Carolina, has secondary unpaved road systems of over 310 miles; and

WHEREAS, during Governor Holshauser's administration, the County Commissioners had been informed that approximately 287 pieces of equipment were removed from this district and sent to other places and the remainder of the equipment left in this district was the older equipment, which is now in bad need of repair and replacement and that the capital outlay funds and current expense funds will not pay for the replacement or renovation of this equipment; and

WHEREAS, the paved secondary road system for Columbus County, State of North Carolina, is in dire need of proper ditching for drainage purposes and that many of the existing ditches have not been cleared in numerous years;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, State of North Carolina, respectfully request the North Carolina Department of Transportation to appropriate funds for improvement of secondary roads in and for the said County of Columbus by appropriating funds to the capital outlay and the current expense budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is hereby requested to clean out the road ditches for the paved secondary roads in said County of Columbus and grade and service many of the now unpaved secondary roads; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Brunswick, North Carolina; North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, North Carolina; and the Honorable James Hunt, Governor's Office, Raleigh, North Carolina.

This the 4th day of April, 1977

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: /s/ C. Waldo Marlowe
C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Emogene W. Suggs
Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

SEAL

A letter of resignation was read to the Board from Kathy Fowler, Secy., Civil Preparedness. to become effective on April 30th. A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to accept the resignation with regrets.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and approved that the law firm of Burns & Hill be retained to serve as Attorneys for the County at the request of Attorney Hill who is a member of said firm and is presently retained as County Attorney.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to appoint C. R. Ward of Lake Waccamaw to fill the unexpired term of Mr. J. B. Latty (deceased) on the College Board of Trustees which ends on June 30, 1977.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and approved to write a check to Bobby Ray Mills, Bolton, N. C. in the amount of \$50.00 for immediate relief.

Other matters discussed are as follows:

Edd Miller and Jessie Fisher, representing the Oratoria Society of Columbus County, met with the Board to present a budget request of \$2,500 in FY1977-78 budget. The Board will consider this in the overall budget estimate at a later date.

Social Services Director, Joanne Vereen and Board Member, Pauline Moore presented the Social Services Budget Estimate to the Board for the upcoming year. The total increase in the County's share of expenditures for all programs and administration is \$203,000. No action was taken at this time.

Mr. B. A. Mills, District Engineer, DOT, met with the Board concerning an agreement the Department had made earlier with the County to pave a parking lot at the Health Department. He asked to be advised if the Board wished to proceed with the paving. There has been discussion that the Health Department will be moved to the Old Hospital Building later in the year and the Board asked Mr. Mills to wait until a later date for a decision before deleting the project from their records.

A group of citizens, with Azier Spivey as spokesman, from the Williams Township Area who live on SR#1150 had complained to the Board that ditches along SR#1150 are not being properly maintained by the Department of Transportation. The Board asked Mr. Mills to visit that area of the County with the citizens to see if any assistance could be given to relieve their problem.

A letter was read from the Principal of Acme-Delco High School requesting two additional trash containers be palced at the High School. The Board agreed to discuss the matter with Hobson Ivey as to the availability of the containers.

Mrs. Louise Covington, Member, Historical Society, had an appointment with the Board concerning the requirements of G.S. 65-1 which refers to public cemeteries in the County. Mrs. Covington was unable to attend the meeting and Attorney Hill reviewed the Statute for the Board. Further discussion was delayed until Mrs. Covington could attend the meeting and state her specific request.

By general agreement the Board approved the request of Garland McCullen to close the Extension Service Office for the funeral of Mr. R. P. Nobles, Husband of Mrs. Evelyn Nobles, a nutrition worker who is an employee of the Extension Service.

Upon motion the meeting recessed until 9:00 a.m., April 5, 1977, to meet as a Board of Equalization & Review.

APPROVED:

Emogene M. Seeger
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe
Chairman