

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., February 20, 1978, 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 L. 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 Commissioner McPherson.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the February 6th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner McPherson.

Mr. Billy Duncan, Chairman, Planning Board, and COG Officials, Beverly Paul and Ralph Cantral met with the Board and discussed the Regional Land Use Plan which includes Columbus County. The County has previously adopted a Land Use Plan which was prepared by COG and the County Planning Board with input from the Board of Commissioners. The Planning Board recommended to the Commissioners that the Regional Plan be adopted to be used compatable with the County Plan as they pointed out that the difference being in the 1985 projection of transitional land in the Regional Plan is less than the one adopted by the County because of the population projection in a given section.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to approve the recommendation of the Planning Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to allow the College to transfer specific line items within their budget as requested with no increase in funds. (Copy filed with Finance Officer)

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to reappoint R. B. Walters (Col. Ret.), Edward W. Williamson, William Freidman, C. R. Ward and Leo Mercer to the Southeastern Economic Development Commission, subject to their acceptance for another term.

Ellis D. Meares, Jr., EMS Advisory Council Chairman, presented a report to the Board on action taken by the Council in their February 2nd meeting concerning application for 1203 funds for 1978-79. The priorities included \$41,465.00 for Columbus County emergency agencies for training, administration and equipment which will require a 50% match by the County for the first year. The Council aslo recommended that COGs 'H,M,N,& O' enter into joint organization and hire a director for administration of the funds rather than implementing a new agency to administer the funds.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to support the recommendation of the EMS Advisory Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to purchase equipment, consisting of a siren and public address system, from Rodney Hammonds for Civil Preparedness which is installed on the auto purchased from Mr. Hammond earlier,

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to appoint LeRoy Freeman and Bonnie Freeman of Bolton to serve on the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development, to replace Tina Freeman and G. D. Mott who could not serve.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and un-animously passed to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in the past there has been a great deal of misunderstanding with respect to the season for bear hunting in Columbus County; and

WHEREAS, many of the citizens and residents of Columbus County have suggested that the season should be more uniform with respect to our neighboring counties; and

WHEREAS, there has also been a great amount of misunderstanding with respect to sanctuaries for bears in Columbus County;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, respectfully request the NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE COMMISSION to either declare an open season on bears in Columbus County without special restrictions to the length of the season, or the time of the season, similar to the season in the surrounding counties, or either to close Columbus County entirely to the hunting of bears, and to make the same illegal throughout the entire year. The Board of Commissioners of Columbus County recommends that the opinions of the senior wildlife officers in this area, Mr. J. R. Kennedy and Troy Sigmon, should be considered with respect to the determining the amount of bears in the area where making the decision.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE COMMISSION, Raleigh, North Carolins, and to Mr. J. R. Kennedy, Wildlife Officer, Columbus County, North Carolina, and to Mr. Troy Sigmon, Wildlife Officer, Columbus County, North Carolina.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, respectfully requests that a copy of the above resolution be forwarded for their consideration to the Honorable R. C. Soles, Jr., Tabor City, North Carolina, the Honorable Richard O. Wright, Jr., Tabor City, North Carolina, the Honorable Edd Nye, Elizabethtown, North Carolina, and the Honorable Ron Taylor, Elizabethtown, North Carolina.

This the 20th day of February, 1978

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: /s/ Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

ATTESTED:

/s/ Emogene Suggs CLERK

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved that Mrs. Neppie Williamson be given \$50.00 from the ODP Fund for immediate relief.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and approved to allow the Finance Officer to amend the Budget to appropriate funds to pay the utilities and repair expenses at the Miller Building.

The following resolutions were approved upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Williamson:

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief of Williams Township Volunteer Fire Department presented the original boundary map for the Williams Township Volunteer Fire Department along with a description of said boundary to the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioner had heretofore adopted a Resolution on May 5, 1975, to provide financial assistance to certain fire departments of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, ~~BE~~ IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that the boundary map and description for Williams Township Volunteer Fire Department are hereby approved by the Board and the description of said boundary is recorded as follows:

Beginning at a point (1) on U. S. Highway 701, 0.9 mile north of its intersection with Road 1179; thence southeasterly to point (2) on Road 1157, 0.4 mile north of its intersection with Road 1160; thence southeasterly to point (3) on Road 1160, 0.4 mile southeast of its intersection with Road 1157; thence southwesterly to point (4) on Road 1141, 0.2 mile southeast of its intersection with Road 1177; thence northwesterly to point (5) on Road 1177, 0.2 mile west of its intersection with Road 1141; thence southerly to point (6) on Road 1150, 1.9 miles southeast of its intersection with Road 1180, excluding property on Road 1177 between this and the preceding point; thence westerly to point (7) on Road 1117, 0.2 mile east of its intersection with Road 1005; thence southwesterly to point (8) on Road 1005, 0.2 mile south of its intersection with Road 1117; thence northwesterly to point (9) on U. S. Highway 701, 0.2 mile southwest of its intersection with Road 1155; thence northerly to point (10) on Road 1314, 0.2 mile northwest of its intersection with U. S. Highway 701; thence northerly to point (11) on Road 1315, 0.2 mile west of its intersection with Road 1005; thence northwesterly to point (12) on Road 1319, 0.7 mile west of its intersection with Road 1005; thence northeasterly to point (13) on Road 1005, 0.1 mile south of its intersection with Road 1328; thence northerly to point (14) on Road 1005, 0.1 mile south of its intersection with Road 1326, excluding property on Road 1005 between this and the preceding point; thence northerly to point (15) on Road 1005, 0.1 mile north of its intersection with Road 1326, including property on Road 1005 between this and the preceding point; thence northeasterly to point (16) on Road 1324, 0.4 mile northwest of its intersection with Road 1327; thence northeasterly to point (1), the beginning.

The Board of Commissioners, in accordance with the provisions of the aforesaid Resolution and subject to the approval of the Columbus County Fire Commission, hereby approves

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the application of the Williams Volunteer Fire Department for financial assistance. Payments to the Department will be made at the beginning of each fiscal year.

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief of Hallsboro Volunteer Fire Department presented the original boundary map for the Hallsboro Volunteer Fire Department along with a description of said boundary to the Board of Commissioners on February 6th; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners had heretofore adopted a Resolution on May 5, 1975 to provide financial assistance to certain fire departments of the County;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that the boundary map and description for Hallsboro Volunteer Fire Department are hereby approved by the Board and the description of said boundary is recorded as follows:

Beginning at point (1) on Road #1001, 0.6 mile north of its intersection with Road #1713; thence southeasterly to point (2) on Road #1713, 0.6 mile northeast of its intersection with Road #1001; thence in an easterly direction to point (3) on Road #1730, 2.5 miles northeast of its intersection with Road #1001; thence southeasterly to point (4) at the intersection of U.S. Highway 74-76 and Road #1736; thence southwesterly to point (5) on Road #1957, 0.2 mile east of its intersection with Road #1901; thence southwesterly to point (6) at the intersection of Roads #1901 and 1902; thence southwesterly to point (7) at the intersection of Roads #1001 and 1915, including property on Roads #1908 and 1909; thence northwesterly to point (8) on Road #1914, 0.8 mile southwest of its intersection with Road #1001; thence westerly to point (9) on Road #1914, 0.3 mile east of its intersection with Road #1911, excluding property on Road #1914 between this and the preceding point; thence westerly to point (10) on Road #1914, 0.3 mile west of its intersection with Road #1911, including property on Road #1914 between this and the preceding point; thence northwesterly to point (11) on Road #1914, 0.1 mile south of its intersection with Road #1904, excluding property on Road #1914 between this and the preceding point; thence northerly to point (12) on Road #1914, 0.1 mile north of its intersection with Road #1904, including property on Road #1914 between this and the preceding point; thence northerly to point (13) on Road #1914, 0.3 mile southwest of its intersection with Road #1912, excluding property on Road #1914 between this and the preceding point; thence northerly to point (14) at the intersection of U.S. Highway #74-76 and Road #1714; thence northeasterly to point (15) on Road #1713, 0.5 mile southwest of its intersection with Road #1710; thence northeasterly to point (16) on Road #1710, 0.5 mile northwest of its intersection with Road #1713; thence northeasterly to point (1), the beginning.

The Board of Commissioners, in accordance with the provisions of the aforementioned Resolution and subject to the Columbus County Fire Commission's approval, hereby approves the application of the Hallsboro Volunteer Fire Department for financial assistance. Payments to the Department in accordance with the aforesaid Resolution shall be made at the beginning of the fiscal year.

The following tax release was approved upon the recommendation of the Tax Supvr.:

Ordered: that a refund be given to M. C. Sarvis, Sr., in the amount of \$580.56. Property is double listed to Woodrow Grainger Heirs, South Williams Township. Check is to be made payable to Mrs. L. B. Hedgecoe, P. O. Box 186, Tabor City, N. C.

Joanne Vereen & Marion Duncan met with the Board to discuss a pay scale for employees under the State Competitive System which are Social Services and Health Department employees.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to adopt the State Salary Scale which was used by the State for the present fiscal year. This scale would be an overall increase of 6.5% but would be below the State scale for 1978-79.

Steve Smith, Elizabeth Covington and Donald Simmons met with the Board to present a "Punch List" to be used as a guideline for renovating the section of the Miller Building

that is to be used by the Mental Health Department. Mr. Simmons summerized the list with a brief explanation but gave no cost estimate. Mr. Smith asked the Board to allow his Department to be employed to do some of the basic work at a rate of \$2.65 per hour, plus Social Security expense.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to hire the Sheltered Workshop participants to do the work they can do and to work jointly with Mr. Floyd, who is contracted by the County with the Hospital for maintenance work and repairs, and to start the heating boiler. Paul Hughes is to approve the purchase orders for purchasing supplies that are needed for the workers.

It was further discussed concerning renovations at the Miller Building in the section to be used by the Health Department as the Department must hire some additional employees by March first to implement some new programs. There was also a request for two additional rooms for the Health Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the Chairman contact Steve Smith and work with him to start renovations and repairs in the area to be used by the Health Department first, or if he has sufficient workers, to work on both sections at the same time.

The Board decided not to obligate any additional rooms to the Health Department until further decisions are made as to where other departments will be located.

The Board of Elections met with the Board and requested that the County purchase an elections system. A process presentation was made by Russell M. Sloss, Sales Representative for Computer Elections Systems. The cost for the system for Columbus County would be \$93,882. No decision was made at this time concerning the request.

A letter of request was presented to the Board for a CETA worker to be placed at the local Social Security Office in Whiteville. No slots are available at this time.

There were two letters of support for the skilled nursing care facility to be implemented by the County. The letters were from the Towns of Cerro Gordo and Chadbourn.

The Board adjourned to the Department of Social Services where Mrs. Vereen presented an overview of the needs of her Department as it relates to space and additional employees. Mrs. Vereen toured the building with the Board and explained the crowded working conditions and the excessive caseloads of the present employees from her point of view.

After the tour of the Department the Board recessed until 7:00 p.m., February 22, 1978, to meet with the Health Board and continue unfinished business.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Berger  
Clerk

Waldo Melrose  
Chairman