

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., May 1, 1978, it being first 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 (Absent) Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by The Reverend C. B. Hicks, Pastor, Hallsboro Methodist Church.

The minutes of the April 15th and 17th meetings were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

The following business was transacted:

The following report was presented to the Board by Richard Wright:

NORTH CAROLINA

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

COLUMBUS COUNTY

James Hill, County Attorney; Junior Dew, County Commissioner; E. L. Green, Chairman, County Board of Elections; and Richard Wright, having duly been appointed by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners on the 20th day of March, 1978, to establish the true location of that certain boundary being the Southern boundary of West Lees Voting Precinct and the Northern boundary of Bug Hill No. 3 Voting Precinct, do hereby report as follows:

1. That on the 20th day of March, 1978, the undersigned were appointed by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners to be a Committee to establish the above-mentioned boundary.
2. That on the 14th day of April, 1978, all members being present, the Committee met at Pine Level Church with several interested citizens including Vance Hawes, Jim Long, D. P. Ward, Avery Ward, and Ervin Long; that the Committee announced to the assembled citizens that the purpose of the visit was to establish the location of various geographic areas mentioned on Page 9 and Page 10 of a record book stored in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Columbus County, North Carolina, contained minutes of the County Commissioners dated July 31, 1868, and establishing Lees Township and Bug Hill Township.
3. That the assembled citizens took the Committee down an old single lane road to the Mooney ford; that there was evidence that this had been the location of a ford across the swamp and leading to the Bethel Community; that all the local citizens agreed that this was Mooney ford.
4. That there upon, the citizens showed the Committee the course of Mooney Road in an eastward direction from the swamp to a crossroads just West of the Ward Cemetery; that the Committee was told that the road to the Northeast was called the Ward Road, and that Mooney

Road veered to the right to Pine Level Church; and, further, that State Road No. 1114 follows the course of the Old Mooney Road to that point where State Road No. 1114 terminates at its intersection with State Road No. 1108.

The citizens further stated that the Old Mooney Road formerly continued Eastwardly in a direct line with the present course of State Road No. 1114, (Old Mooney Road). The local citizens then took the Committee down into the woods where traces of the Old Mooney Road were discovered as it passed an old cemetery, and the site of an old church which had burned. The Committee and the local citizens then followed the Old Mooney Road to the run of Big Cypress.

5. The Committee was also satisfied as a result of evidence from local citizens assembled that the Mooney Road continued in an Eastward direction coming just North of the T. J. Williamson Store on 905, and that it continued thereupon with the present course of State Road No. 1943 to the Waccamaw River.

6. The Committee was also shown the run of Williamson Mill Branch and the run of Simmons Bay.

That since the tour had required several hours, the Committee decided to meet at 3:00 o'clock, p.m. on April 19, 1978, at the Board of Elections to consider the evidence discovered and to compare the description as recorded in the minutes dated July 31, 1868, with the map presently being used by the Columbus County Board of Elections to determine the boundary between West Lees and Bug Hill No. 3.

7. That at 3:00 o'clock, p.m. on April 19, 1978, the Committee did assemble at the Board of Elections, and that Mrs. Ila Penny, Register of Deeds of Columbus County, had consented to allow the Committee to remove the old record book from the Courthouse for its deliberation.

8. That the Committee found that it had located the boundary as described in the 1868 record book and that the old description as found on Page 10 of said book is as follows for Lees Township:

"...along the line of Whiteville District to the Beaverdam Swamp. Thence down that swamp to the Mooney Road, thence with it to the Big Cypress. Up Big Cypress to its fork, thence a direct line to the mouth of Williamson Mill Branch, then down Simmons Bay (to the Waccamaw River).

9. The Committee also read the description of the area in controversy as contained on Page 9 of the 1868 minute book which described the Bug Hill boundary as follows:

"...thence up the river to the mouth of Simmons Bay, thence up Simmons Bay to the mouth of Williamson Mill Branch, thence a direct line to the fork of Big Cypress, thence down Big Cypress to the road that leads to Reaves Ferry, thence up the road to Mooney's Swamp..."

10. The Committee thereupon as a result of the evidence gained on April 14, 1978, and as a result of the description contained in the 1868 record book, decided unanimously that the correct boundary between West Lees and Bug Hill No. 3 may be found by a line described as follows:

Beginning at a ford known as Mooney Swamp Ford and continue in a South-eastward and Eastward direction with the Old Mooney Road to S. R. 1114; thence in an Eastward direction with S. R. 1114 (Old Mooney Road) to S. R. 1108; thence across S. R. 1108 and continuing with the Old Mooney Road to the Old Ford at Big Cypress, a branch; thence up Big Cypress to its fork; thence in a direct line to the mouth of Williamson Mill Branch in the run of Simmons Bay.

11. In summary, the Committee hereby reports that the Eastern portion of the land between West Lees and Bug Hill No. 3 as shown on the map presently used by the Board of Elections

is correct, but the Board further finds that the Western portion of the line as presently shown on the map used by the Board of Elections is incorrect, and the Committee further finds that the vast majority of the citizens who were voting in West Lees, but were said to be living in Bug Hill do, in fact, reside in West Lees.

12. The Committee further urges the Columbus County Board of County Commissioners to adopt this Report and to direct the Columbus County Board of Elections to issue new maps showing the boundary between West Lees and Bug Hill No. 3 as above determined.

This the 1st day of May, 1978.

/s/ James E. Hill, Jr.
James E. Hill, Jr.

/s/ Junior Dew
Junior Dew

/s/ E. L. Green
E. L. Green

/s/ Richard Wright
Richard Wright

The above Report was accepted by the Board and ~~action was passed~~, upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Dew that the Board of Elections be sent a copy of same with the recommendation by the Commissioners that they issue a new map showing the boundary line between West Lees and Bug Hill #3 Precincts as determined by the Committee.

A letter of inquiry was received from the Department of Transportation asking response from the Board on the environmental impact of the proposed improvement of US 74 from NC 41 to US 74 near Chadbourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that a letter be sent to the Department, along with a map, and designate an area in which timber has died since US 74 has been four-laned in the nearby vicinity, and ask that the Department try to determine the cause of the trees dying. Also, state that the citizens of that location feel that the problem is due to water blockage which has occurred since the Highway was four-laned.

The following tax releases were approved upon the recommendation of the Tax Supervisor and upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner McPherson:

Ordered: that the 1977 taxes listed in the name of Phillip Wayne Greer, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,060.00 due to an error in transferring property.

Ordered: that the 1976 taxes listed in the name of Patrick L. Ray, Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$10,020.00 due to a tractor being listed in error.

Mr. John Minton met with the Board to further discuss the preapplication for Community Development for 1978-79. Since the previous meeting some HUD Officials had visited the County for monitoring purposes. It was recommended by HUD that Columbus County continue with the target areas of Boardman, Southwest Chadbourn and Hallsboro; and add Evergreen and Riverview.

It was also recommended that the administrative expense budget item be increased from 5% of the grant to 6%.

Mr. Minton also discussed two planning grants he wished to make application for, one of which would be a historical planner. The County's share for the planning grants would be \$3,000 for matching funds.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and approved to grant the above request and authorize the Chairman to sign the necessary documents to proceed with the planning grants and the preapplication for Community Development funds.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to use the percentage method of paying the unemployment insurance cost for Community Development Employees as the possibility of the Program not being active when the reimbursement cost are determined and no funds available to pay.

The following resolutions were approved by the Board upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner McPherson:

CERTIFICATIONS OF FIRE DEPARTMENTS BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, G. S. 118-23 requires certification to the North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance as to firemen and fire departments of compliance with minimum conditions precedent to the eligibility of firemen and volunteer firemen for benefits under the North Carolina Firemen's Pension Fund Act, the undersigned certifies to the North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance that:

Hallsboro, Williams Township and Buckhead, North Carolina, are County Fire Districts of this state having a bona fide fire department which operates fire apparatus and equipment of the value of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more, and said fire department holds drills and meetings not less than four hours monthly;

The persons names on the attached roster are regular and/or volunteer firemen of the fire departments described in the above paragraph, and said firemen attend at least thirty six hours of all drills and meetings of said fire departments in each calendar year.

This certification was duly approved and adopted by the governing body of Columbus County, North Carolina at a meeting held on the first day of May, 1978, and the undersigned was directed to execute and forward a copy of same to the North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance.

Witness my hand and seal, this the first day of May, 1978

SEAL

/s/ Waldo Marlowe, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

PROCLAMATION FOR OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH DURING MAY

WHEREAS, the older citizens of our County have traditionally been respected for their many years of leadership in business, church, civic and community affairs and for their wealth of knowledge that comes only from experience; and

WHEREAS, many have joined together in organizations and clubs for their mutual benefit in promotion of the social welfare and economic status of their age group; and

WHEREAS, to honor all of our older citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of May, 1978, as Older Americans' Month and do call on all citizens and organizations, as an expression of their appreciation for services and contributions of our older citizens, to signify our continued support of their various programs and activities in our County.

This the first day of May, 1978

/s/ Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Board of Commissioners

The above proclamation was made upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner McPherson.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to authorize the Chairman to sign the necessary documents to recertify Columbus County's HUD 701 Planning Process.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson authorizing the application for a Columbus County Communications Grant:

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, herein called the "Applicant" has thoroughly considered the problem addressed in the subgrant application entitled Columbus County Communications and has reviewed the project described in the application; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of Public Law 90-351 as amended, the United States of America has authorized the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, through the North Carolina Law & Order Section to make federal grants to assist local governments in the improvement of the criminal justice system,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN OPEN MEETING ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY OF WHITEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, THIS THE FIRST DAY OF MAY, 1978, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the project referenced above is in the best interest of the Applicant and the general public.
2. That Waldo Marlowe, Chairman be authorized to file, in behalf of the Applicant, an application in the form prescribed by the Law and Order Section for a subgrant in the amount of \$6,750.00 to be made to the Applicant to assist in defraying the cost of the project described in the application. This individual shall act as the authorized representative of the Applicant in connection with all aspects of the application process.
3. That if the subgrant is made, the Applicant shall provide or make arrangements to provide, a local cash matching contribution in the amount of \$375.00 as required by the most current guidelines.
4. That to the full extent the law allows, the Applicant intends to continue to program at its own expense and to appropriate funds therefor subject only to budgetary limitations should the program be useful, effective and pertinent.
5. That Applicant understands that approval of the subgrant application in no way implies or commits the United States of America, the Law Enforcement Administration or the

Law & Order Section to approve any application for continuation funding or to provide any continuation funding whatsoever; rather, Applicant understands that continuation funding will probably not be available and application therefor will only be considered, if at all, under only unusual circumstances.

6. That the Project Director designated in the application form shall furnish or make arrangements for other appropriate persons to furnish such information, data, documents and reports pertaining to the project, if approved, as may be required by the Law & Order Section.

7. That certified copies of this resolution be included as part of the application referenced above.

8. This resolution having been read aloud in its entirety at the meeting above mentioned, shall be effective upon its adoption and shall be recorded in its entirety in the minutes of the Columbus County Board of Commissioners Minute Book.

The Board agreed to set the time of finalizing the request made to the Board of Equalization & Review as May 15, 1978, at 7:30 p.m.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until May 15, 1978, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

Waldo Maloune
Chairman