

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 7:30 p.m., Friday, September 21, 1979, in a special called meeting.

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

Others present at the meeting were:

Hospital Board of Trustees:

William Floyd

Clyde Wayne

Ned Council

Paul Rogers

Ralph Rogers, Secretary

Doctors Present:

Dr. W. H. Hoskins

Dr. F. M. Carroll

Dr. Ray Thigpen

Legislators:

Senator R. C. Soles, Jr.

Richard O. Wright, Jr.

Edd Nye

George "Ron" Taylor

Others:

Leo Mercer

Arthur McPherson

Ginger Meares

Thom Billington

Ray Wyche

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and he welcomed those present and invited questions and comments for the audience concerning obtaining a "Certificate of Need" for a skilled nursing home to be located in the Miller Building.

Ralph Rogers briefed the audience on the events up to date on the efforts of the County to obtain the Certificate.

Dr. Carroll restated that the Medical Society of the County voted to support the Board in their efforts to acquire the Certificate. He stated that there are now 20 doctors who attend patients in the Hospital.

Dr. Hoskins and Dr. Thigpen said that in their opinion Columbus County did not have a real skilled nursing home.

Dr. Hoskins stated that Columbus County Hospital is an acute care hospital and in his present position with the Hospital he helps make the decision when patients are to be taken from the hospital and there are now 10 patients who could be removed from the Hospital if skilled nursing care was available. It was pointed out in the discussion that there are presently 10 hospital rooms that are not being used.

Senator Soles stated that he was willing to assist the County in any way in their efforts to get a "Certificate of Need" but he would like for the Board to state their position on the question in the form of a resolution before he takes any action.

The general opinion expressed by those present, except the members of the press, was that there was a need for a skilled nursing service as Columbus County is not now adequately provided this service and that if the Board presented their request to Cardinal Health Agency and were refused the Certificate, the Legislators would assist them in Raleigh to obtain one through other procedures on the State level if possible.

After the discussion, the following resolution was passed upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Dew and subject to a vote of the people if the "Certificate of Need" is obtained:

WHEREAS, The County of Columbus by and through the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, has found that there presently exists a need for additional skilled nursing facilities in the said County of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, The County of Columbus has begun, through the help of the Trustees of Columbus County Hospital, Inc., to explore the possibility of the establishment of additional skilled nursing facilities; and

WHEREAS, numerous citizens of the County of Columbus are requesting the Board of Commissioners to pursue this matter as vigorously as possible to the end of establishing additional skilled nursing facilities;

BE IT, THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners does hereby agree to pursue from the Cardinal Health Agency a CERTIFICATE OF NEED for additional skilled nursing facilities in Columbus County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners that a certificate of need from the Cardinal Health Agency or any other agency empowered by law to issue the said certificate, that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners sponsor a referendum by the people of the County of Columbus to decide whether or not the tax money should be used for renovation of present existing facilities and/or establishment of new facilities for additional skilled nursing facilities in Columbus County.

A motion was made by Commissioner ~~Williamson~~, seconded by Commissioner Hinson passed to appoint Commissioner McPherson to serve in the Regional Housing Authority which is now in the planning stages. (Resolution passed September 4, 1979)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to appoint Commissioner Williamson to serve on Advancement, Inc. Board.

The Clerk was instructed to contact Earl Price, Whiteville Fire Department, and tell him that he may have any of the materials from the old house that are left on the lot on Thompson Street, and any of the materials he does not want, be burned, either by him or the Whiteville Fire Department.

It was agreed by the Board to allow Tracy Floyd to loan the old hospital beds that are stored in the Miller Building, but to keep a register as to the location of each bed.

There was a discussion of space that could be made available to the District Courts to use for juvenile court or non-jury court. No definite decision was made at this time.

The meeting was adjourned upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Dew.

*Emogene W. Suggs*  
Clerk

APPROVED:

*Waldo Marlowe*  
Chairman

*A. W. M. Suggs  
9-17-79*