

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., October 1, 1979, 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

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by Commissioner Hinson.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the September 17th meeting were approved upon motion by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and with the following exceptions: (See Page 184)

The CETA employees that were terminated at the end of September were 92, but only 14 worked directly under County departments and the cost to retain these 14 would have been \$113,000.00 and not the entire 92 employees.

The motion to add four slots to the County payroll, as a result of losing the 14 CETA slots, was passed by a vote of four to one, with Chairman Marlowe voting in the affirmative and Commissioner McPherson voting negative.

The following proclamation was declared upon motion by Commissioner Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson:

WHEREAS, the 4-H Club program since its beginning sixty-five years ago, has contributed much to the health and welfare of the nation and has encouraged many young people to choose careers which help improve family and community living; and

WHEREAS, during this week 4-H Club members will honor all 4-H families for their accomplishments and their devotion to the high ideals of 4-H; and

WHEREAS, 4-H members put into practise the skills and science they learn as they develop their talents through 4-H - EXPANDING HORIZONS, the theme of National 4-H Club Week; and

WHEREAS, in these changing times young people, who are the citizens of tomorrow, must discover and acquire the virtues of responsibility, thoughtfulness, morality and understanding; and

WHEREAS, the 600 boys and girls now enrolled in Columbus County 4-H clubs, and the 83,000 members over the State of North Carolina, soon will be taking their places in society by establishing homes of their own, and joining the ranks of community and State leaders;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, in recognition of the fine achievements of 4-H members and their families do hereby proclaim the week of October 7-13, 1979 as

NATIONAL 4-H CLUB WEEK IN COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of this Office to be affixed.

This the 1st day of October, 1979

/s/ C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and approved to release the following taxes, and upon the approval of the Tax Supervisor:

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Thurman High, Welches Creek Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$14,055.00 due to an error in copying abstract. Property is correctly listed on Late List.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the following names be released due to the Property Relief Act for the Elderly and Permanently Disabled Persons:

Richard Aydell	Whiteville Township	\$ 6,940.00 Valuation
Ned & Mary E. Boswell	Whiteville Township	7,500.00 Valuation
Albert F. Buffkin Heirs	Whiteville Township	3,630.00 Valuation
Henry & Mandy Savage	Fair Bluff Township	5,990.00 Valuation
Hazel R. Britt	Fair Bluff Township	7,500.00 Valuation

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of David Bennett & Ruther Lee Duncan, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,420.00 due to an error in listing a garage on the house but there is no garage.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of James Howard McPherson, Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$9,980.00 due to property being incorrectly listed to him and should be listed to his Mother, Mrs. Bessie McPherson, who is entitled to Senior Citizens exemption.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of John Rodney Lane, Jr., Lees Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,950.00 due to an error in listing a Chevette as a Corvette.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed to Frederick King, Jr. & Wife be released in the Acme-Delco Fire District in the amount of \$20.10 as Mr. King does not live in the Fire District.

Ordered: that a refund be given to David Bennett & Ruther Lee Duncan, Rt. 5, Box 436A, Whiteville, N. C., Whiteville Township, in the amount of \$17.04 for taxes paid in error in 1978.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that the Clerk write a letter to the Sheriff requesting a quarterly report on the use of the WATS line at the Law Enforcement Center, as has been done in the past by the Public Safety Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to nominate Mrs. Janice Eulean Gore, Rt. 3, Box 369, Whiteville, N. C., to serve on the Southeastern Regional Mental Health Area Board. Mrs. Gore will replace Mrs. Doris Mills who has not attended the meetings as required by the by-laws.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed that the County enter into contract with Glen Ellen Jones to index the historical book for Columbus County at a cost of \$5.00 per hour. The Attorney is to prepare the Contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved to purchase a rebuilt LoDol body and loader to be installed on the new cab and chassis that was approved for purchase at the September 17th meeting. The cost of the rebuilt body is \$12,000.00 less the change over of \$2,500.00 included in the original bid.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to amend the Health Department Budget as follows:

Increase Revenue # 10-350-05 in the amount of \$16,500.00 for State Grants for Glaucoma Clinics

Increase Expenditure # 10-596 in the amount of \$16,500.00 for operation of Glaucoma Clinic (Line Item will be submitted as soon as received from Raleigh)

This represents a portion of a year as only three quarters remain in our fiscal year. The total amount for a full year is \$20,000.00.

There was a discussion concerning the clean-up campaign by the Department of Transportation. It was pointed out that Mr. Mills said that the Department would concentrate their efforts on major highways, areas near the towns and thickly populated areas. The Board expressed support of the clean-up campaign but made no specific plans to participate in the project at this time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that the Finance Officer adjust the Revaluation Budget to the exact amount of the Contract that has not been paid rather than the estimated amount at the time of preparing the Budget. This would require an adjustment in the appropriation of Surplus in the same amount.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to approve the payment of the bill presented by Steve Whitacre for discovered property for 1979 tax levy and the Tax Supervisor's budget is to be amended in the amount of \$690.00 to cover the expense.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that Commissioners Williamson and Hinson screen the applicants for the positions approved at the September 17th meeting and select the persons they feel are best qualified for each position. The Board will accept the recommendation of Commissioners Hinson and Williamson for the four positions.

After reviewing the applications the following persons were employed by the County to begin work on October 2, 1979:

Janie Wallace	Clerk, Board of Elections
Elrich Turner	Equipment Operator-Landfill
Edward Nobles	Assisting Dog Warden
Ada S. Gibson	Cook at Law Enforcement Center

Reports reviewed by the Board were:

Grand Jury Report

Revaluation Report - 46½% Complete

A Resolution was read from the Tabor City Town Council that strongly opposed the Sheriff's Department charging a fee to the schools for having an officer on duty at athletic and other school sponsored events. They expressed concern that this might lead to charges for other services. Commissioners McPherson and Hinson expressed support of the Resolution.

A letter was read to the Board informing them that Mrs. Doris Tedder had resigned her position with the Extension Service as EFNEP Aide to take another position with the Extension Service.

A delegation of persons met with the Board to express concern about the financial difficulty of the transportation program because of the cash flow caused from operating on a reimbursement basis. The following persons were present: Jim Bellamy, Paul Pope, Irene Young, Davis Godwin, Justin Oliver, Julie Stocks, Tommy Holmes, Colleen Stanley and Robert Clark. These people are directly affected by the operation of the transportation program so that they may continue to offer services to the eligible citizens of the County.

Mr. Oliver asked that the County advance money to SENCLand to be repaid as funds come in from the sponsors. Mr. Clark pointed out that no one was delinquent on payment of funds but that SENCLand needed "seed money" to keep the bills current as some vendors have refused to extend credit until the present outstanding bills are paid.

There was a lengthy discussion of the problem and the County Attorney told the Board there was no law that allows them to loan money to private organizations and that to give funds over and above the amount needed to pay for services rendered would also be a violation of the General Statutes. The Board asked Mr. Hill to do further research and Mr. Clark to get additional information on the status of SENCLand as a designated agency to fight poverty in Columbus County.

Mr. Sandy Shaw met with the Board and asked that if the County got additional slots for CETA employees, that they distribute the slots on some type of equitable basis, such as population as some towns now had more slots than others but smaller in population.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until October 3, 1979, at 7:30 p.m. to continue unfinished business, including further discussion of the transportation program.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs Clerk

Wade Maloune Chairman