

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., December 17, 1979, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chairman (Part-time)

Edward W. Williamson

David L. McPherson

L. A. Hinson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by the Reverend Beverly Ferguson, Pastor, Forest Lawn Baptist Church.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the December 3~~rd~~ meetings were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson with the following addition: Commissioner Hinson stated that he voted for the slate of Junior W. Dew for Chairman and David L. McPherson as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

The second public hearing was held to allow any citizen to be heard on the pre-application for Community Development Grant funds and no citizen appeared to be heard.

Melissa Sigmon told the Board that she and Jack Ward had re-surveyed the sites previously recommended by her as target areas for housing improvement projects. She stated that the areas recommended as a result of their investigation are the area along the Mill Pond Road and along the Red Bug Road. The Mill Pond Road is located in the South Whiteville-Brunswick area and the Red Bug Road is located near Hallsboro. Ms Sigmon stated the amount of the application is \$486,000.00 with 10% to be used for administration.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that the area along the Red Bug and Mill Branch Roads be designated as the target areas for Columbus County in their pre-application for Community Development Grant funds to upgrade the housing in those two areas.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County hereby endorse and recommend that the Department of Transportation pave the driveway entering into the property of the White Marsh-Welches Creek Community Volunteer Fire Department, Route 2, Whiteville.

Mr. Mills reported on the findings of the Hydrographic Unit of the DOT on the following flooding problems:

SR #1001 - Lees Lake Area - Mr. Mills stated that there are four bridges in the flooded area which are considered adequate. The report stated that the only solution to the problem would be a major drainage project that would involve the Corp of Engineers. He

said that if DOT built up the road there would still be flooding.

SR #1005 - Gumm Swamp - Mr. Mills reported that if the road was built up higher than it now is, there would still be flooding as it now floods on both sides of the road and it is not due to the water passage opening under the road.

SR #1324 - Beaverdam Area - Mr. Mills reported that the bridges on this road are adequate for that area except for the "Fifty-Year Storms", two of which have come in less than a year and caused flooding in Lee Duncan's home. Mr. Mills reported that the Duncan home is located in a flood area of the branch.

Other reasons for flooding in several areas of the County are land clearing and cutting of new ditches; and logging in the swamps and not removing the debris.

Mr. A. W. Williamson, Jr. and Dr. Sam Koonce of the College Finance Committee, and Dr. Ron McCarter met with the Board to discuss alternatives to the bond issue which was defeated. Their concern was that the College will lose \$500,000.00 in State funds if it is not matched by local funds by the end of December. They stressed the fact that the later funds are matched the more inflation will eat away and presented three proposals that would begin and complete the building in either 1981 or 1982 for a Learning Resource Center.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to table any action until the Board could give further consideration to the matter. It was also requested that Dr. McCarter request an extension of time beyond December 31st as the Board will not meet again until January 7, 1980.

Hugh Clark, FmHA Manager, met with the Board to request that the funds now being received by the County for janitorial service in FmHA Offices be reverted back to him to allow him to hire a person for janitorial service in his offices.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to dissolve the Contract with FmHA for janitorial service and the funds go directly to Mr. Clark to be used in obtaining janitorial services with no responsibility to the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to approve the Whiteville City Schools receiving the Community Based Alternatives funds in the amount of \$715.75 for their In School Suspension Program, and authorized the Chairman to sign the necessary documents for the contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that all regular County employees and CETA employees be given a \$25.00 bonus for Christmas.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to sign a contract with Moore & Price, PA., to audit Columbus County funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1980.

Commissioner Junior W. Dew introduced the following resolution which was read:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE COLUMBUS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES AND POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY OF ITS INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BOND (FAIR BLUFF PROJECT) IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Commissioners has determined and does hereby declare as follows:

(a) The Board of Commissioners of Columbus County industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority met on December 17, 1979, and took the following action in connection with the proposed issuance and sale of the Authority's Industrial Revenue Bond (Fair Bluff Project) in the principal amount of \$1,000,000:

1. approved a Bond Purchase Agreement, dated as of November 1, 1979, among the Authority, North Carolina National Bank (the "Bank") and Croft Metals, Inc. of North Carolina (the "Company"), pursuant to which the Authority agrees to issue and sell the Bond to the Bank and the said Bank agrees to purchase the Bond from the Authority;

2. approved and authorized the execution and delivery of a Loan Agreement, dated as of November 1, 1979, by and between the Authority and the Company, pursuant to which the Authority will lend the proceeds of the Bond to the Company, the Company will issue to the Authority its Note in which the Company will promise to pay amounts equal to the amounts required to pay the Bond and the Authority agrees to endorse and pledge the Note to the Bank to provide for payment of the Bond;

3. approved and authorized the execution and delivery of an Assignment dated as of November 1, 1979, from the Authority to the Bank, pursuant to which the Authority will assign to the Bank certain of its rights under the Loan Agreement as security for the Bond;

4. approved the form of a Guaranty Agreement from Croft Metals, Inc. (the "Grantor"), of which the Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary, to the Bank; and

5. authorized the Authority's Industrial Revenue Bond (Fair Bluff Project) in the principal amount of \$1,000,000 bearing interest subject to increase in the event that such interest is determined to have become subject to Federal income tax, at a rate of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ % per annum and stated to mature in installments beginning December 31, 1981 and directed the execution and delivery of the Bond; and

(b) The Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus has reviewed the action taken by the Board of Commissioners of the Authority in connection with the issuance and sale of the Bond and has made such other examination and investigation as it deems necessary and relevant as the basis for the approval set forth herein.

Section 2. Pursuant to and in satisfaction of the requirements of G.S. 159C-4(d) the Board of Commissioners for the County of Columbus hereby approves the issuance by the Authority of its Industrial Revenue Bond (Fair Bluff Project) in the principal amount of \$1,000,000.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Commissioner Edward W. Williamson moved the passage of the foregoing resolution and Commissioner L. A. Hinson seconded the motion, and the resolution was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners C. W. Marlowe, Junior W. Dew, Edward W. Williamson, L. A. Hinson and David L. McPherson.

Noes: None

Abstained: None

The following tax releases were approved upon motion by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and recommended by the Tax Supervisor or the Tax Collector:

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Andrew O. Shipman, Welches Creek Township, be released on the valuation of \$4080.00 for Disability Exemption.

Ordered: that the taxes listed in the name of Clinton & Pearl Smith, Tatum Township, be cancelled for the years 1976 through 1979 due to double listing of 2.36 acres of land valued at \$390.00.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Luther J. Fisher, Western Prong Township, be released on the valuation of \$3500.00 due to error in listing bulk barns.

Ordered: that the taxes listed in the name of Henry Fisher, Western Prong Township, be released on the valuation of \$800.00 due to error in appraising the number of racks in his bulk barns for the year 1979.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Joe Fisher, Western Prong Township, be released on the valuation of \$500.00 due to an error in appraising the number of racks in his bulk barns.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of William T. Waddell, Fair Bluff Township, be released on the valuation of \$12,000.00 due to an error in the Appraiser listing 4 bulk barns that were already listed.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Norman Barry Milligan, Rt. 3, Box 79B, Tabor City, N. C., Bug Hill Township, in the amount of \$39.84 for the year 1978, due to an error in listing the valuation of a tractor.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Betty B. Sibbett, Box 158, Evergreen, NC, Tatum Township, in the amount of \$90.00 for the year 1979, due to being eligible for Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Benjamin R. Justensen, Fayetteville, NC, Whiteville Township, in the amount of \$54.00 due to an error in listing a house which had been removed from the property and the property sold to Columbus County.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of James M. Singletary, Western Prong Township, be released on the valuation of \$1050.00 due to an error in appraisal of property.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Ronald Earl & Beulah Jane Stone, Whiteville Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$6460.00 for Disability Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Mary Butler Fowler, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$2750.00 due to bulk barns being listed to her in error.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Alma H. Holmes, Whiteville Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$750.00 due to an error in the appraiser listing a heating system which she does not have.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Harold Gene & Harriet Marlowe, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$1500.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Paul McKinley & Frances J. Watts, Western Prong Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$4720.00 due to error in appraiser listing their mobile home as stationary but mobile was already listed.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of John Jehovah Smith, Bogue Township, be released on the valuation of \$1900 due to property listed in error (buildings & hookups).

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Margaret Pierce, Bug Hill Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$3600.00 due to an error in the Tax Supervisor's office to give the Disability Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Gumery & Cleo Hilbourn, Fair Bluff Township, be released on the valuation of \$7500.00 for Senior Citizens Exemption. This includes the Service District.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Emily C. Hazel, Bogue Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$4330.00 for Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Norman Barry Milligan, Bug Hill Township, be released on the valuation of \$4320.00 due to error in valuation of tractor.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Doctor F. Mercer, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$3415.00 for Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Eustus Guyton Heirs, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$9845.00 due to an error in listing personal property of Estaleen Guyton on the Eustus Guyton Heirs. Also one dog listed in error.

Ordered: that the 1979 taxes listed in the name of Carlos D. & Esty J. Bullard, Ransom Township, be released on the valuation of \$4000.00 due to an error in listing too many bulk barns.

Ordered: that a refund be made to Stockton, White and Company, Raleigh, NC, in the amount of \$336.08, Ransom Township, due to an error in paying taxes for the wrong person, paid Wayne S. Austin's and should have been Wayne S. Austin, Jr's.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and approved that Joanne Vereen, Social Services Director, be allowed to adjust the salaries of the two employees who are being reclassified from Trainees to Social Workers.

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

WHEREAS, the County of Columbus held a public hearing pursuant to due advertisement as prescribed in the North Carolina Statutes Chapter 157; and

WHEREAS, at the said public hearing and after the same it was determined that there does exist unsanitary or unsafe inhabitant dwelling accommodations in Columbus County and there also exists a lack of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations in Columbus County which are available to all inhabitants thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners are interested in forming and participating in a regional housing authority of Brunswick and Columbus Counties; and

WHEREAS, the regional housing authority of the County Board of Commissioners would be more efficient and economical administrative unit than a housing authority operated solely by the said County because of the small population of the County to carry out the purposes of the housing authorities' laws and amendments thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners is cognizant of the fact that one commissioner would be appointed from Columbus County to the regional housing authority, and if there should be an even number of counties, then the Governor of the State of North Carolina will appoint the third commissioner;

Based upon the foregoing, the following was introduced:

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NEED OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TO FUNCTION IN  
COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBUS COUNTY that there is a need for one regional housing authority to be created for Brunswick and Columbus Counties in order to exercise the powers and other functions herein described, and that the County Board of Commissioners of Columbus County pursuant to the housing authority laws of the State of North Carolina, determines and declares the following:

- (1) That unsanitary and unsafe inhabitant dwelling accommodations in Columbus County presently exists.
- (2) That there is a lack of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations in the County of Columbus available to all inhabitants thereof.
- (3) That there is a need for the regional housing authority to function in the County of Columbus, and that the regional housing authority for the proposed region would be a more effective and economical administrative unit than a single housing authority for Columbus County.
- (4) That the Chairman of the Columbus County Board of Commissioners be and he is hereby directed to file the necessary certificates for adoption of the regional housing authority pursuant to the housing authority laws of the State of North Carolina.
- (5) That a lack of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations in Columbus County, North Carolina, are available to all of the inhabitants thereof at rents of which persons of low income can afford and therefore, these conditions compel such persons to

occupy overcrowded and congested dwelling accommodations; and that the aforesaid conditions causes an increase and spread of disease and crime; and that the clearance and reconstruction of the areas were unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions exists for public use and purposes; and that it is the public's interest that work on such projects be instituted as soon as possible in order to relieve the unemployment which now emerges; and it is necessary to the immediate preservation of the public area health and safety that this resolution become effective without delay, and therefore, the same shall take effect as being in force and in effect upon its adoption.

(6) That because of the conditions above described and the creation of the regional housing authority to function in the County of Columbus and County of Brunswick, North Carolina, to carry out the purposes of the housing authority laws of the State of North Carolina, are hereby declared to be a public purpose.

(7) The Columbus County Board of Commissioners appoint S. T. Enzor, Rt. 1, Box 288, Fair Bluff, NC, as commissioner of the Regional housing authority and representative of Columbus County and the date and place of induction shall be after the formation of the authority. The term of office shall be five years and the proposed name for the corporation is The Columbus-Brunswick Regional Housing Authority. The principal office is the Cape Fear Council of Governments, 321 N. Front Street, Wilmington, NC.

Upon motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Commissioner Hinson, and the following vote was taken:

AYES - Commissioners Dew, Marlowe, Williamson, Hinson and McPherson.

NOES - None

Thereupon Chairman Marlowe declared the said resolution duly adopted and passed.

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

Materials were presented to the Board from the Department of Human Resources entitled "A CHILD HEALTH PLAN FOR RAISING A NEW GENERATION" which is for their consideration and approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to table any action on the Plan until they could study the contents.

At 12:00 Noon the Board adjourned to the Courthouse Annex to have lunch with the Agriculture Extension Service. There was also a presentation by Advisory Leadership Council on the activities of the Extension Service.

After lunch the meeting reconvened at their regular place of meeting with Commissioner Dew absent.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed that the Clerk contact the State Personnel Office and request that the County's Classification & Pay Plan be updated by the State Personnel Office.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson

and passed to sell the generator and dragline at the Landfill that were purchased from Federal Surplus and have been retained over four years. The Attorney was asked to place advertisements in the local paper for bids.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to increase the salary of Garland McCullen, Extension Chairman, in the amount of \$50.00 per month, effective January 1, 1980.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to purchase a door identification sign for the Juvenile Court Counselor Office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to allow the Solid Waste Department and the Recreation Department to purchase a chain saw to be used by both Departments, at a cost of \$280.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to give Kathrene Nance and Bill Register \$50.00 each for immediate relief.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to make the necessary changes in the County's group policies to comply with the Age Discrimination Act for employees over 65 years of age.

The Board agreed to allow the Employment Security Office to transfer their State CETA employee from the State contract to the County's contract at the minimum wage which is \$3.10 beginning January 1, 1980.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until January 7, 1980, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Emergene W. Suggs CKERK

Waldo Marlowe