

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., October 20, 1980, 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 (Part-time) Emogene W. Suggs Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by Reverend Ed Moore, Westminister Presbyterian Church, Whiteville, N. C.

The following business was transacted:

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

Robert Clark, Executive Director, Sencland Community Action, met with the Board and told them that Sencland is planning to open a certified day care center in the Town of Fair Bluff which will be the first certified center in Columbus County and that both those persons who are able to pay and unable to pay may be allowed to use the center. No County funds are to be used to operate the center.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to endorse the opening of a certified day care center in Fair Bluff as proposed by Mr. Clark.

Mr. Clark also discussed the services to the aged as provided by Sencland Community Action. He stated that the appropriation to Sencland in the present budget in the amount of \$5,000.00 is not sufficient to cover the cost of the services provided by Sencland to Columbus County. He stated that services had been provided in excess of \$1,700.00 to the County but did not request an additional appropriation at this time.

The following tax releases were approved upon motion by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and recommended by Tax Supervisor Jolly:

Ordered: that the 1979 Late List of Luetta P. Lennon, Tatum Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$10,160.00 due to an error in appraisal. Property is listed to Alton Lennon.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Luetta P. Lennon, Tatum Township, be released on the valuation of \$10,160.00 due to an error in appraisal. Property is listed to Alton Lennon.

Ordered: that the 1980 (for 1979) taxes listed in the name of Charles Edward & LaRene Miller, Ransom Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$11,270.00. This was on the Late List Pickups for 1979 on a 1980 tax receipt but was not completed until November 1979.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Walter Allen Brown, Ransom

Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$6,125.00 due to double listing. Property is also listed in Bolton Township..

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Lizzie S. Carter, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$7,500.00 for Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Shelby Jean Hemmingway, South Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,400.00 due to an error in transferring property.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Geneva Stanley Hardie, Lees Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,525.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1973 through 1980 taxes listed in the name of Velma Gore, Whiteville Township be cancelled as this lot does not exist as determined by Carroll-Phelps.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Jeanette S. Hardwick, etal, Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,000.00 as property has been transferred to Milton Barnhill.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Calvin Thurston, Ransom Township be cancelled on the valuation of \$2,350.00 due to an error in listing bulk barns in incorrect name.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of George G. Bullard, Fair Bluff Township, be released on the valuation of \$4,000.00 due to error in appraisal of property.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Roger Owen Hammond, Cerro Gordo Township, be released on the valuation of \$900.00 due to error in appraisal.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Roley Wallace, Sr., Ransom Township, be released on the valuation of \$960.00 due to error in listing trailer to him what belongs to his son.

Ordered: that the 1980 (1979 Pickup) taxes listed in the name of John Wayne & Linda D. Gordon, Chadbourn Township, be released on the valuation of \$12,500.00 . House is to be listed for 1980 only.

Ordered: that the 1980 (1979 Pickup) taxes listed in the name of Wade Hampton Clewis, Chadbourn Township, be released on the valuation of \$600.00 as air conditioner was installed after January 1, 1979.

Ordered: that the 1980 (1979 Pickup) taxes listed in the name of Harold D. & Irene Tysinger, Lees Township, be released on the valuation of \$8,850.00 as this value does not apply to 1979 listing.

Ordered: that the 1980 (1979 Pickup) and 1980 taxes listed in the name of Thomas Suggs, Lees Township, be cancelled due to an error in listing property that does not belong to him.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Columbus Forest Industries, Ransom Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$12,430.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Roger A. & Marion C. Webb, Ransom Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$890.00 due to an error in listing.

Ordered: that the 1980 (1979 Pickup) taxes listed in the name of Eugene & Eunice Ward, Chadbourn Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,050.00 due to error in listing property that he does not own.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Eugene & Eunice Ward, Chadbourn Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,050.00 due to an error in listing property that he does not own.

Ordered: that a refund be issued to Jeanette S. Hardwick Etal, Williams Township, for 1979 taxes in the amount of \$12.00 due to error in listing property that has been sold to Milton Barnhill.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Eugene Talmadge Green, for the years 1979 and 1980 due to double listing bulk barns. 1979 tax refund is \$60.00 and 1980 is \$65.00 in Cerro Gordo Township.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Earl D. Edmund, Lees Township, in the amount of \$8.45 for 1980 taxes due to property being listed that Mr. Edmund does not own.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to allow Jo Anne Vereen, Social Services Director, to act as Deputy Finance Officer to sign contracts for her Department to comply with G. S. 159-28.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to approve the recommendation of Dr. Andrews and Mr. McCullen to hire Bill Triplet as the 4-H Agent for Columbus County. Commissioner McPherson asked the Clerk to write a letter to Dr. Andrews and Dr. Dew expressing appreciation to them for completing the screening process and recommending Mr. Triplet for the position.

A letter was presented to the Board from Mr. E. L. Green, Chairman, Board of Elections requesting the approval of funds to purchase three voting booths at a cost of \$300.00 each as no funds were budgeted for capital outlay for 1980-81. A motion was made by Commissioner Dew to table the request.

At 11:10 a motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson to adjourn into executive session to discuss a personnel matter with Richard Wright, Attorney for an employee.

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At 11:45 the Board reconvened in regular session, all Members present.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to amend the budget for the Tax Supervisor's Office in the amount of \$700.00 for temporary clerks to help send out new revaluation notices. Appropriation to be made from Surplus.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and

passed to approve the payment of the bill for Ledwell and Associates in the amount of \$1,771.00 and that future invoices be approved by the Chairman and the budget be amended to cover the expense up to a total of \$6,000.00, to be appropriated from Surplus.

The following resolution was unanimously passed upon motion by Commissioner Williamson seconded by Commissioner McPherson and approved by the County Attorney:

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLVES:

1. To contact Cardinal Systems Health Agency.
2. To amend the requested change and "Paragraph" to require adjacent counties to approve the release if their allocated beds would be a mistake for the following reasons:
 - a. Congress and HEW gave the Health Systems Agencies a mandate to plan, govern, review and make decisions as it relates to health care delivery. For the Review Board of Cardinal Health Systems Agency to "give" the authority to various counties to make that decision is to circumvent the purpose intended, and causes the Review Board of Cardinal to relinquish its' responsibility to persons and boards that neither understand the process or have the wherewithall to investigate its impact. This "giving" of Cardinal's responsibility may well be illegal.
 - b. There are at least two counties that have specific exceptions that make the proposed "Paragraph" as written a valid request for change:
 1. Columbus County: The existing building with related furnishings and rooms that make a nursing home feasible. This is an exception that should be taken into consideration by Cardinal not adjacent counties. The project is a good one because of its obvious "Health Cost Containment" advantages.
 2. Hoke County: Under the present plan Hoke County cannot apply for an appropriate number of beds to make a project feasible. With a need for 76 beds by 1985, an application for 25 beds per year is too small for a feasible project. By applying in 1981 for 1/3 of the total need for their county and adjacent counties, (excess of 56) Hoke County can apply for 56 beds. Question: "Why should Hoke County ask adjacent counties for their approval for less beds than Hoke County is allocated anyway?" It is fairly obvious adjacent county commissioners would disapprove any release of their own allocations, and Hoke County would not get a nursing home. There is no nursing home in Hoke County at the present time.
 - c. Columbus County requested the change in the Health Plan to allow the Review Board to have some flexibility in their decisions. In effect to give "Exceptions" a chance for review. For an amendment to be attached is inappropriate. We strongly feel that Columbus County's request for the change be acted on as written. Any amendment to

the request can only come from those making the request, namely, Columbus County Board of Commissioners.

Under the present allocations, Hoke County can apply for 1/3 of the projection for 1985; 1/3 of 76 beds is 25 which is an inappropriate and unfeasible number.

With the proposed change made by Columbus County Board of Commissioners the

following is possible:	Hoke County	76 beds
	Cumberland County . . .	36 beds
	Robeson County	26 beds
	Scotland County	31 beds
	Total in 1985	169 beds

Hoke County can now put in for 1/3 of the above total now or in 1981 if they so desire. (56 beds) This would be a feasible size facility that could expand to 60 beds in a year or two at no cost. Sixty beds is the optimum (Cardinal Plan) and is less than the projected 1985 bed need for Hoke County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that the grant from North Carolina Department of Natural Resources & Community Development for the Recreation Department, in the amount of \$47,000, be accepted by the Board and the Chairman is hereby authorized to sign the Contract accepting the funds. The funds are to be used for Young Adult Conservation Corps Program.

Commissioner Hinson stated that he would like to go on record commending Dempsey Herring, Recreation Director, for doing a good job and the entire Board concurred.

A motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to proceed to advertise for a County Planner with the salary range to be \$14,000.00 to \$18,000.00 per year and that the position be considered a permanent position. It was agreed by the Board to hire a planner at this time rather than an administrative person.

Mr. Ed Carter of Chadbourn presented the Board with a Proposal and a map of the proposed service district in the Chadbourn area, along with a description of the area to be served. The Proposal stated the intent of the district, if established and the Board was asked to review the information and be prepared to make a decision on the proposal at the November 3rd meeting. Mr. Otis Collins and Mayor Leo Mercer were present at the meeting for the presentation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to send a letter to the Board of Transportation and ask that SR 1831 be out on the priority list of roads to be improved as soon as funds are available.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed to allow Peggy Fields to work four days a week as a part-time permanent employee and come under the personnel policy as a part-time worker which would be a change in benefits. It was stipulated that Mrs. Fields write a letter of request and also state that she has an understanding of the change in her status as a part-time employee as to benefits and this letter be filed in her personnel file.

Informal bids were presented to the Board to re-roof Sadler Hall at the Miller Building. Only two bids were presented and the Attorney instructed Mr. Tracy Floyd that a minimum of three bids are needed to be considered for awarding a bid.

The Clerk was instructed to ask Howard Stanley to distribute a copy of the accident form, approved at the October 6th meeting, to each department head to be used by the department head to report non-employee accidents that occur in their respective department.

Following a phone conversation between Commissioner McPherson and Gary Jennings, Executive Director, Cardinal Health Agency, Inc., there was a discussion concerning a public hearing that was held in Lumberton by Cardinal that was open for comments on the "Paragraph" that Columbus County had requested to be included in the Agency's plan for allocating long term care beds. (See Minutes of August 27th)

Due to confusion concerning the notice of the hearing the Board inquired if another hearing could be held if they so desired. Mr. Jennings stated that a new hearing would upset the schedule to allow the County's application for nursing beds to be reviewed in December. The Board agreed that the Clerk contact Jerry Ledwell, Architect, giving him the information from Mr. Jennings and allow him to make the decision if a new hearing should be held as he is the consultant hired by the Board in the nursing home matter.

A letter was presented to the Board from North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development informing them that unless Congress appropriates additional funds in the near future the CETA funds will expire December 15, 1980, and all contracts are executed with this condition.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until November 3, 1980, which is first Monday.

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

APPROVED:

C. Walden Melrose
Chairman