

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., May 4, 1981, it being first Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Edward W. Williamson, Chairman

L. A. Hinson, Vice-Chairman

C. Waldo Marlowe

Junior W. Dew

Lynwood Norris

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 Commissioner Hinson.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the April 20th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Norris and seconded by Commissioner Hinson.

The following persons met with the Board representing the Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squads of the County: E. D. Meares, Jr., Buddy Inman, Guy Long and LaRue Fowler.

Mr. Meares acted as spokesman for the group and presented a request from the Association asking that each single unit be given an additional appropriation of \$2,000 from the County and each double unit be give an increase of \$4,000.00 beginning July 1, 1981. The total budget increase would be \$46,000.00 if granted. No decision was made at this time but will be considered at budget time.

Howard Stanley, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported to the Board on the status of the 2-4-Dinitrophenol (hazardous chemicals) that have been stored in Whiteville. He reported that 554 drums have been moved out of the County and the move will continue so that the process will be completed within the 100 days allowed in the court order to have the materials moved from the County.

Joe Kenyon, Soil Conservationist, and Willie Spruell, Survey Director, met with the Board to report on the progress of the Soil Survey for Columbus County which began in 1975. The Project was to continue for eight years at a cost of \$112,000 to the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to approve the appropriation of \$15,500.00 in the 1981-82 budget and the balance in 1982-83 in order to meet the County's obligation within the eight years.

Mr. Kenyon stated that the Project should be completed in 1983 and available for public use.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to appoint Larry Williamson, Rt. 1, Hallsboro, NC, as electrical inspector for the eastern area of the County. Mr. Williamson replaces Mr. J. W. Bullock who will retire on June 30, 1981.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew to appoint Richard Peacock, Tatum Township, to replace Raymond Shaw on the Columbus County Jury Commission and was appointed by proclamation. Mr. Shaw is no longer eligible to serve as he has been elected to a public office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to support the efforts in Tabor City, North Carolina by Wellons Foundation, Inc. to apply for funds to provide housing for the elderly and handicapped, as well as others, in the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed that the hospitalization plan for Columbus County employees be changed from the present coverage of extended benefits to major medical coverage with \$100.00 deductable. This change is to become effective on July 1, 1981, with policy remaining with Blue-Cross/Blue Shield, Inc.

The following resolution was passed by the Board upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Norris:

RESOLUTION TO ENTER AGREEMENT WITH NORTH CAROLINA LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES'  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM TO PROVIDE CERTAIN BENEFITS AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 1310 OF  
THE SESSION LAWS OF 1973 (2ND SESSION, 1974)

WHEREAS, the 1973 General Assembly amended the North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System laws so as to permit agreements for providing certain benefits for employee members pursuant to Chapter 1310; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of this Unit realizes the desirability of providing its employees with the security and protection provided by said benefits; and

WHEREAS, Article 3 of Chapter 128 of the General Statutes of North Carolina provides that any employer governmental unit desiring to provide said benefits for its employee members must execute an agreement therefor with the Director of the North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS in regular session,

1. That the County of Columbus hereby elects to secure said benefits for its employees in the North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System.
2. That the County of Columbus hereby agrees to comply with all provisions of the North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System as defined in Article 3, Chapter 128 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, as amended, and to make such increased employer's contributions as the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System may determine to be necessary in order to provide said benefits.
3. That the County of Columbus is hereby ordered and directed to execute an agreement with the Director of the North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System to implement said benefits of Chapter 1310 of the Session Laws of 1973 (2nd Session,

1974)      Affirmative Vote      Four  
   Negative Vote      None

One member was absent at this time.

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

Ordered: that the 1973 through 1980 taxes be cancelled on three lots that were double listed to Alex Baldwin, Welches Creek Township, in the following amounts:

1973	\$28.90		
1974	30.60		
1975 through 1979	\$40.80 each year	Late listing penalty	\$10.03 for all years.
1980	44.20		

Ordered: that the 1974 through 1980 taxes listed in the name of Ray Summersett, Lees Township, be cancelled due to double listing on the valuation of one acre valued at \$300.00. The Late listing penalty for \$2.00 is also cancelled.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Thomas Paul & Barbara J. Freed, Tatum Township, be released on the valuation of \$2,150.00 for a house being sold and removed from the property.

Ordered: that the 1980 taxes listed in the name of Jesse Bullard Heirs, Ransom Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$19,890.00 due to double listing a house.

Ordered: that a refund be issued to L. A. Williams, Whiteville Township, in the amount of \$99.90 for taxes paid for 1978 through 1980 on a lot that was sold to Columbus County.

Ordered: that a refund be issued to J. T. MacIntyre, Whiteville Township, in the amount of \$592.00 for taxes paid for 1978 through 1980 on a house and lot that is double listed to United Carolina Bank.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Peoples Savings & Loan, Wilmington, for taxes paid in error for Hubert J. & Jollys R. Shaw, Ransom Township for 1980 taxes.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Farmers Home Administration in the amount of \$67.21 for taxes paid in error for Franklin D. Freeman for 1978 and 1979 taxes, Bolton Township.

The following persons met with the Board to officially present the Columbus County Schools' budget request for 1981-82:

Board Members, David Small, Walter Batten, John F. Carter, and Richard Dameron; Supt. Mitchell Tyler and Finance Officer, Robert Ezzell.

Mr. Tyler presented the budget as being very conservative and stated that they are not asking the local government to absorb any programs that have been cut by the State and federal agencies. No action was taken at this time but will be considered at budget meetings.

Commissioner Williamson left the meeting at 11:25.  
Commissioner Marlowe came into the meeting at 11:30

Jo Anne Vereen, Social Services Director, presented the Social Services budget request to the Board for 1981-82. She stated that the increases in her budget are primarily due to mandated programs, AFDC and Medicaid. Her salary increase request is 7%.

Mrs. Vereen told the Board that there is not enough County funds in the 1980-81 budget appropriation to cover the AFDC expense even though the amount appropriated was above the amount recommended by the State office for AFDC. The total for County funds should be \$303,749.00 with the State providing an equalizing fund in the amount of \$37,028.00 and the County providing \$267,036.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that \$37,018.00 be appropriated from the General Fund Surplus, as needed, to meet the unforeseen expenditure, and corresponding amendment be made in the Public Assistance budget.

Mrs. Vereen stated that she has been notified by the Department of Natural Resources and Community Employment that the equipment purchased by CETA and used at Social Services would have to be returned to CETA when the CETA Title is terminated. The projected date is June 30, 1981. This means that she will have to return five desks, five chairs, five cabinets and four air conditioners. The employees have been hired by the County to work at Social Services as regular employees.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that a resolution be sent to the Governor, Legislators and Congressmen requesting that the County be allowed to retain this equipment for these employees to use.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to appropriate \$4,874.00 from Surplus to contract with the State Personnel Office to revise the County's Classification & Pay Plan.

A. E. Shaw, II, Manager, Town of Chadbourn, met with the Board to request the use of the County's landfill facility to deposit dry sludge from their water treatment plant.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that the Town of Chadbourn be allowed to deposit dry sludge from their wastewater treatment plant in the County's landfill on conditions that the Town make the determination as to whether the materials to be deposited are non-toxic and not of a hazardous nature and present documentation to the Supervisor (or his designee) concerning the determination of the materials to be deposited. The Town of Chadbourn is to bear the cost of the determination and no deposits are to be made until approval is given by the Department of Human Resources.

Robert Clark, SENCLand Community Action Director, met with the Board and presented his budget request for 1981-82. His total request from Columbus County to match other funds is \$8,103.00. This would be used to continue the present programs now in operation in Columbus County by SENCLand. He also discussed the County providing \$4,523.00 in matching funds to purchase three vans if other matching funds are available. No decision was made at this time but will be discussed later at budget meetings.

Attorney Hill came into the meeting during Mr. Clark's presentation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to reappoint Mr. S. G. Koonce on the Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees as his present term expires on June 30, 1981.

Chairman Williamson stated that grants are available to counties to set up land records management records which would involve the Register of Deeds and Tax Supervisor's offices. The Board granted permission for Chairman Williamson and the offices that would be involved to inquire further into the availability of funds and the terms under which they are granted

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until 7:30 PM, May 7, 1981, to meet as a Board of Equalization and Review to consider the properties that have been presented to them for adjustment.

*Eugene W. Soggs*  
Clerk

APPROVED:  
*Edward W. Williamson*  
Chairman

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The Board of Equalization & Review met in their said office at 7:00 p.m., May 7, 1981, according to adjournment.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION & REVIEW PRESENT:

- L. A. Hinson, Chairman
- Edward W. Williamson
- C. Waldo Marlowe
- Junior W. Dew
- Lynwood Norris
- Anne Williamson
- Vance T. Maultsby
- William T. Honeycutt
- Ralph Jolly, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the following changes were made on certain properties presented to the Board at earlier meetings for consideration to reduce the valuation of their property:

NAME & ADDRESS	TOWNSHIP	PROPERTY	CHANGE IN VALUATION
Curtis L. Ward P. O. Box 2 Whiteville, NC	Whiteville	3 Houses & Lot House & Lot	\$14,770 to \$ 12,700 \$ 2,960 to \$ 2,380