

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., August 3, 1981, it being first Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Edward W. Williamson, Chairman (Absent)
 L. A. Hinson, Vice-Chairman
 C. Waldo Marlowe (Part-time)
 Junior W. Dew
 Lynwood Norris
 James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney (Part-time) Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairman and the invocation was given by Thom Billington, Reporter for the News Reporter.

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

J. L. Stanley, Operator of EMS, and Ellis D. Meares, Jr., met with the Board to discuss the funding of the EMS by the County. Mr. Meares was present on behalf of the Columbus County Fire & Rescue Association to present a letter of support for the County to subsidize the Emergency Medical Services operated by Mr. Stanley. Each unit that makes up the Association except Whiteville Rescue Squad had signed a resolution in support of Mr. Stanley's Service.

There was a discussion concerning the service and Mr. Stanley was requested to submit an audit report to the Board of Commissioners and after review of the audit a decision will be made. Mr. Stanley agreed to submit a report which was an option in the Contract that a report could be requested by the Board.

Ms. Bible met with the Board to request that the Board approve the Library Board of Trustees' request to make application for a grant from the State to match donated funds for expanding the main library facility. The amount of the donations at this time is \$26,000.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to approve the above request.

Sandy Woody, Sales Representative for Woody-Webster Insurance Company, met with the Board to request that he be allowed to sell disability and accident insurance to county employees and the County remit the premiums to the Company through payroll deductions. He had been offered the option to present the County with a group insurance hospital plan for consideration for county employees but stated that he could not offer anything better for the same amount of money as the County group is a high user of the policy.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew that the policy established in the past to not add any additional payroll deductions for insurance be maintained and not change the policy at this time. No second was made to this motion nor was any motion made to change the policy that has been in effect for several years.

Philip McPherson met with the Board to request that the County not accept funds from the State for abortions for he is convinced that abortions are murders of children and because of his religious beliefs he is very concerned that the Board participates in subsidizing immorality.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the funding of abortions and Mrs. Jo Anne Vereen, Social Services Director and Vondrena Gore, Program Supervisor, were called to the meeting to answer questions from Mr. McPherson. Attorney Hill and Mrs. Vereen called several State offices to get answers to Mr. McPherson's questions. Attorney Hill stated that the matter was very controversial and he advised the Board to await the outcome of Alamance County's decision to not receive State abortion funds before they make any decisions concerning not funding abortions. One result of not accepting abortion funds may be the withholding of part or all other state and federal funding for other programs. Mr. McPherson contended that the Board should make a decision to not accept the funds regardless of funding for other programs.

District Engineer, Andy Mills, met with the Board to present a copy of the "Secondary Roads Paving Priorities for 1981-83".

The Board requested Mr. Mills to repair "washouts" at tiles on SR # 1537 and "Miller Brothers' Road" which have occurred during the heavy rains in recent days.

Also, there were five citizens present who reside on NC #211 who requested that the Board support their efforts in getting NC #211 improved by widening the road and getting the shoulders built up.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, North Carolina Highway 211, which runs in a north-south direction through the eastern portion of Columbus County, North Carolina, is in need of repair; and

WHEREAS, there exists presently a great amount of traffic on NC Highway 211 (mainly consisting of logging operations, tourist, and mill employment); and

WHEREAS, people of Eastern Columbus County, North Carolina, will be benefited greatly by the widening and improvement of NC Highway 211;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that they do hereby request the North Carolina Department of Transportation to grant money for the widening and improvement of the shoulders of NC Highway 211, and to that end;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following: The Honorable R. C. Soles, Jr, North Carolina Senator; The Honorable Richard Wright, Jr., The Honorable Ron Taylor, The Honorable Edd Nye, North Carolina Representatives; and the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, North Carolina.

ATTESTES BY: /s/Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BY: /s/ L. A. Hinson, Vice-Chairman

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to appropriate \$100.00 from Legal Services Budget to contribute to the railroad lawsuit collective legal defense for counties concerning property valuations in 87 counties.

Ralph Brake, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Representative, met with the Board to discuss the benefits paid by the group insurance plan. He compared the benefit codes of the present policy with the previous policy and assured the Board that the present policy pays greater benefits but pointed out that there is a \$100.00 deductible on the present policy. He also discussed adding retired employees to the County's group coverage. He recommended that the Board not do this because they now have a high usage by the present group and historically adding retired employees increases the use which would increase our experience rating. No action was taken by the Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that Haley's Custodial Service be employed to clean the Administrative Building once a week.

It was announced by the Vice-Chairman that bids would be opened to purchase decals for the Solid Waste Department. Only one bid was received and was opened and read aloud as follows:

News Reporter Company	400 decals	\$365.00
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A motion was made by Commissioner Dew seconded, by Commissioner Norris and passed to purchase the decals from the News Reporter Company as bid.

At 2:15 a motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to adjourn into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

At 3:20 the Board reconvened in regular session.

Commissioner Marlowe left the meeting at this time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to appoint Kenneth Hardee and David Lanier to the Lake Waccamaw Board of Adjustments, and Charles Andrews to the Lake Waccamaw Planning Board. This action was taken upon the recommendation of the Lake Waccamaw Town Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to approve line item transfers in the Whiteville City Schools Budget as approved by the Superintendent, totaling \$34,100.00 in the Current Expense Budget and an increase of \$2,287.50 in the Capital Outlay Budget and line item transfer of \$7,212.50 in the Capital Outlay Budget. The \$2,287.50 is appropriated from the Schools' Surplus. No increase in County funds was made. (Budget Amendments filed in budget folder with Finance Officer)

A motion was made by Commissioner Dew, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to void the Account Receivable from the Town of Tabor City in the Revaluation Fund for the a map purchased in error. The amount is \$45.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to mail the County appropriation for the Tabor City Fire Department to the Town of Tabor City, to be forwarded by them to the Fire Department. Previously the appropriation had been mailed directly to the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to employ Grady Cole Evans and Randy Allen Hammond to work at the Solid Waste Department as general laborers to begin at the minimum wage and employ Gary Ray Nance to work at the Miller Building to assist Tracy Floyd in the maintenance of the plumbing and electrical systems and other maintenance work such as painting. He is to begin work at the rate of \$4.00 per hour to be computed on a monthly salary.

The Tax Collector's Report for the month of July was reviewed by the Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Dew and passed to amend the budget in the District Court Section, in the amount of \$2,500.00 to cover the additional cost of salaries for preparing jury lists due to no CETA employees being available to assist as in past years.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until August 17, 1981, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

L. G. Hinson
Vice-Chairman