

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., December 7, 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

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 November 16th meeting were approved as recorded upon motion by Commissioner Marlowe and seconded by Commissioner Norris.

Chairman Williamson stated that the first Monday in December is the official time to reorganize the Board for the ensuing year and asked that the Attorney act as moderator for the reorganization.

Mr. Hill briefly explained the procedure to be used to select a chairman and vice-chairman and asked for nominations for same.

Commissioner Williamson nominated Junior W. Dew for Chairman and Lynwood Norris for Vice-Chairman.

Commissioner Hinson moved that the nominations be closed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed. Commissioner Junior W. Dew was appointed to serve as Chairman and Commissioner Lynwood Norris was appointed to serve as Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

The meeting continued with the following Members present;

Junior W. Dew, Chairman

Lynwood Norris, Vice-Chairman

Edward W. Williamson

C. Waldo Marlowe

L. A. Hinson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

The following business was transacted:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to amend the Social Services Budget as follows:

Add Low Income Energy Assistance Expense	\$29,010	Federal Funds	\$29,010
Crisis Intervention	11,341		11,341
Decrease - Title XX Day Care	3,400		3,400
Title XX Services	3,584		3,584
Increase - Permanency Planning	4,722		4,722

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

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of P. L. & Carolyn C. Elvington, Fair Bluff Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$4,680.00 due to an error in transfer of property.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Yates Lee McPherson, Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$3,100.00 due to error in number of acres of cleared land listed.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Davil L. Parker, Ransom Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,990.00 due to house being incomplete.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Earl Brown Gurkin, Western Prong Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,560.00 due to error in valuing woodland and correct acreage.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Earl Brown, Sr. & Carolyn E. Gurkin, Western Prong Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,410.00 due to error in appraisal of property.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Rosetta W. Ikner, Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,650.00. The property is also listed in the name of David Earl Fowler.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of L. B. Smith, Ransom Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$230,400.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Odell & Cynthia Brown, Ransom Township, be released on the valuation of \$10,540.00 due to the removal of a house from the property.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of James Ervin Heirs, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$5,460.00 as there is no house on the lot.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of W. Venoy Stephens, South Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$675.00 as vehicle is listed to W. V. Stephens Builders Supply.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Charles W. & Linda R. White, Whiteville Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$3,570.00 due to property being transferred to Carlisle Suggs, Jr. and is on late listing.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Ricky & Shneil F. Watts, South Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$4,050.00 as house has been moved from the property and listed to Ricky Watts.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Carl Junior & Evelyn Ward, South Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,300.00 due to double listing.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Croft Metals, Inc. of NC, Fair Bluff Township, be released on the valuation of \$118,832.00 (office furniture). This was included in the book value. Also \$603.29 on the late list is to be released as they

were granted an extension for listing their taxes.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Dr. Robert Allen Yates, Sr., Tatum Township, be cancelled. Due to a new survey Dr. Yates has combined two tracts of land which is listed on the late listings.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Rufus Coleman, Ransom Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$1,500.00 due to double listing two acres of land.

Ordered: that the taxes listed in the name of F. M. Fowler, Williams Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$500.00 for 1979 on a fireplace which Mr. Fowler does not have,

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Eddie Pickett, Ransom Township, be released on the valuation of \$19,080.00 due to a house being listed to him in error.

Ordered: that the 1974 through 1981 taxes listed in the name of Annie T. Smith, South Williams Township, be cancelled as the property listed has been divided and no land left in her name.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Askew Chevrolet, Inc., Chadbourn Township, be released on the valuation of \$55,800.00 due to an error by the Tax Lister in listing the valuation of fixtures. Release also applies to the Klondyke Fire District.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Wanda Damaris Pridgen, Whiteville Township, be released on the valuation of \$19,290.00 as house was incomplete on 1-1-81.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Louise H. Littleton, Lees Township, be released on the valuation of \$500.00 due to an error in listing a tobacco barn.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Esther Hinaon Shell, Lees Township, be released on the valuation of \$550.00. The hookups on the trailer are listed to Faye Merritt and the deck is to be taken off the real estate.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of M. C. & Hessie Fowler, South Williams Township, be released on the valuation of \$7,530.00 due to double listing 11 acres of land.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Henry S. Buffkin Heirs, Fair Bluff Township, be released on the valuation of \$1,000.00 due to an error by the Appraiser in computing the value of the property.

Ordered: that the 1979 Late List Pickup of Fannie Suggs Walton, Bug Hill Township, be cancelled on the valuation of \$700.00 due to error in listing heating equipment.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of John A. & Estelle Buck, Bug Hill Township, be released on the valuation of \$500.00 due to double listing a house.

Ordered: that the 1981 taxes listed in the name of Ductor Register, Lees Township, be released on the valuation of \$6,980.00 for Senior Citizens Exemption.

Ordered: that a refund check be given to C. W. Shelly, Cerro Gordo Township, for 1981 taxes due to an error in listing land. Refund is for \$14.53.

Ordered:

Ordered: that a refund be given to Esther Hinson Shelly, Lees Township, in the amount of \$4.73 for 1981 taxes paid in error.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Henry S. Buffkin Heirs, Fair Bluff Township, in the amount of \$8.60 for 1981 taxes paid in error.

Ordered: that a refund be given to R. H. & Brookie Strickland, Cerro Gordo Township, in the amount of \$22.79 for 1981 taxes paid in error.

Ordered: that a refund be given to Birdie Swinton, Chadbourn Township, in the amount of \$10.05 for 1978 taxes paid in error.

Commissioner Williamson asked the Board to consider increasing the Christmas bonus for county employees from \$25.00 to \$50.00.

After a short discussion and upon determining the cost, a motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that the Christmas bonus remain at \$25.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed to allow the Finance Office to release the payroll checks on December 18th for the month of December.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to reappoint the present members of the County Fire Commission, who are Charles Moore, Willis Burroughs and L. A. Hinson.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he is not satisfied with the ambulance "situation" and made a motion that the County re-hire J. L. Stanley (CCEMS) to provide private ambulance service in addition to the Brunswick Ambulance Service at a rate of \$5,000.00 per year for each Service.

Commissioner Marlowe stated that he would like to do further checking on the matter before making a decision. It was suggested by Commissioner Norris that the motion be tabled until the next meeting but Commissioner Williamson stated that he wanted the motion to stand. There was no second to the motion and the Chairman announced that the motion died for lack of a second.

John McNeill and Howard Stanley met with the Board and Mr. McNeill presented the energy audit report made by the State of the County's buildings. A copy of the findings and recommendations for improvements was presented to each Board Member for study. Mr. McNeill stated that the Board would have to grant strict authority to the person selected to carry out the energy program if they decided to make the improvements. The Board agreed to study the report and discuss it further at the next meeting. They expressed appreciation to Mr. McNeill for the audit and stated that it is a beneficial report.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed to appoint Cindy Long to the Youth Task Force to replace Michael Miller and Rodney "Sonny" Hammonds to replace Terry Crouse. The above names were presented to the Board by Mrs. Sue Prescott, Chairman of the County Youth Task Force.

At 11:05 a motion was made by Commissioner Norris to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed.

The executive session adjourned at 11:27.

The annual Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1981 was presented by Allen Price, Moore & Price, PA. Mr. Price stated that he would go over the highlights of the Report and invited the Board to study the Report and meet with him later, either as individuals or as a Board, to further discuss the Report. He stated that the funds had been handled with fidelity and the only "down-spot" he would point out of that the tax collections do not compare favorably with most other counties in the State.

Mr. Leo Mercer and Mr. John Harrelson, Postmasters in Whiteville and Chadbourn, met with the Board to ask the cooperation of the Tax Supervisor's Office in obtaining more accurate addresses for property owners when listing taxes. They stated that they have difficulty in delivering tax notices because of inadequate addresses. Mr. Jolly, Tax Supervisor, stated that he has instructed the list takers to check each address when listing taxes and will continue to emphasize the importance of correct addresses.

The following letter was directed to the Tax Collector upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Norris:

State of North Carolina

County of Columbus

To the Tax Collector of Columbus County:

You are hereby authorized, empowered and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the office of the Tax Supervisor and in the tax receipts herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from taxpayers likewise therein set forth. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien upon all real property of the respective taxpayers in the County of Columbus, and this order shall be full and sufficient authority to direct, require and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayers, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

/s/ Junior W. Dew, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED: /s/ Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk
Board of Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that James E. Hill, Jr. continue to serve as County Attorney at the pleasure of the Board.

The Board asked Mr. Hill the status of the Waccamaw Shores assessment project and asked him to consult with Mr. Jolly on the progress being made toward meeting the State requirements for matching funds for paving Waccamaw Shores. He was also asked about his findings on the Gapway Drainage District which were questioned at an earlier meeting by a group of landowners in the District concerning the tax levy. The group was represented by Hosea Coleman. Mr. Hill stated that he is working on the problem.

Dempsey Herring met with the Board to request a salary increase for Kim Dudney, Assistant Recreation Director. He stated that she had been offered a position with a higher salary and he would like to have her stay with the County Recreation Department. The Board told Mr. Herring they would consider his request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed to authorize the Chairman to get prices on cleaning the PCA Building and making minor repairs to the roof. He is to proceed with the above when he gets the best price in order to get the building ready to move employees as soon as possible.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed that the Chairman and Tracy Floyd go to the Board of Elections building and see if the amount of space that is heated can be minimized by some alterations and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Action was taken in executive session that the Attorney settle the claims against the County by Frank Stocks, Charlene P. Stocks and Joel Freeman and that funds be transferred from Contingencies in the amount of \$2,550.00 to cover the cost.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until December 21, 1981, at 10:00 a.m., which is regular meeting time.

Ernoque W. Sogge
Clerk

APPROVED:

Edward W. Hinson
Chairman
Junior Dept

Chairman (After Reorganized)