

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 10:00 a.m., September 20, 1982, it being third Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD 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 meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the invocation was given by Claude Spivey.

The following business was transacted:

The minutes of the September 3rd, 7th and 9th were approved as recorded, upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Norris.

There was a group of citizens present at the meeting representing Concerned Citizens of Columbus County, Citizens for Tax Rate Reduction and the Waccamaw Siouan Community. Mr. Robert Inman acted as spokesman for the group of seventeen citizens. Their request was that Commissioner Edward W. Williamson step aside as County Commissioner and not cloud the decisions of the Board and try to help restore confidence in local government. This request was made because of a discussion of the citizens involved due to the fact that Mr. Williamson has been arrested on charges of accepting bribes from the FBI in an undercover investigation.

Mr. Williamson stated that he had no comment but referred the group to his attorney for any comments he may wish to make. The Chairman stated that the Board of Commissioners had no authority in the matter as Mr. Williamson was an elected official and had no legal responsibility to step aside unless he choose to do so. The Attorney stated that there is nothing for the Board to take action on as Mr. Williamson is elected and can serve until December, 1982, unless he chooses to resign before his term expires on December 6th.

A letter was presented to the Board from the District Judge requesting that the County approve the appropriation of funds to either buy a new typewriter or repair the one in the Magistrate's Office now. The Board suggested that they consult with the State to purchase a typewriter or repair the present one as the Magistrate's office is a State office and the County is under no obligation to purchase equipment for their use.

A letter was presented to the Board from the Good Shepherd Home, Inc. asking the Board to support them in their efforts to solicit funds from adjoining counties that have clients in the Home.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed that the Board send a letter of support for the Good Shepherd Home to surrounding counties making them aware of the needs of the Home and the number of clients from those counties.

The Board was made aware of the financial problem for services provided to the aging under the Older American Act, Title, III-B and C by letter from the Council of Governments. The letter was referred to Mr. Robert Clark, Director, SENCland Community Action, Inc. which is operator of program.

Plans were presented to the Board to provide a ramp for the handicapped at the Courthouse. The plan was provided by NC Department of Human Resources, Division of Aging, David R. Polston, Consulting Engineer. The estimated cost to provide the ramp is \$4,500.00. There was a discussion concerning the ramp and the Board decided to pursue providing the ramp and ask the Council of Governments to look into the possibility of securing a grant to help provide the funds. This action was passed upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Norris.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed to approve the request from Garland McCullen, Extension Chairman, to change the classification of Linda Bulet from a 53 grade to 56 grade and increase her salary by \$95.50 per month. No additional appropriation is necessary as there has been a change in personnel with the replacement person beginning at a lower salary.

Commissioner Dew voted against this motion, all others voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Marlowe and passed that Columbus County provide \$100.00 to the Register of Deeds' Convention being held in Wilmington, to help host the Convention.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Hinson and passed that a refund be given to Charles & Betty Lois Williamson, Tatum Township, in the amount of \$265.68 for 1979 taxes due to listing a house in error.

Claude Spivey met with the Board and stated that he felt that the Board should probe every aspect of the purchase of the Computer Elections System as they were sent to the County without the proper procedures being followed and were obsolete at the time of purchase. The Board agreed to consult with the County Attorney on his complaint.

At 12:30 p.m. bids were opened for the purchase of a truck at the Landfill. The bids were read aloud as follows:

Carolina Waste Equipment, Inc. Hamlet, NC	\$103,162.00 Plus Taxes
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Bennett's Inc. Lumberton, NC	63,020.00
This bid does not include all package requested in bid specifications, but	

cab and chassis only and change body from one chassis to another.

Lumberton Motors, Inc. Lumberton, NC	51,258.00
This bid is for cab and chassis only.	

No bid was accepted but there was further discussion and the Board decided to get information from South Carolina on the equipment that is being used in Horry and Georgetown counties for refuse collection and possibly discuss contracting the Solid Waste service to a private contractor.

Commissioners Marlowe and Williamson were absent in the afternoon discussion concerning the landfill truck and an executive session which began at 2:32 and ended at 3:40.

The executive session began upon motion by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Norris and passed. The reason for the executive session was to discuss personnel relating to selecting a County administrator.

The session ended upon motion by Commissioner Hinson and seconded by Commissioner Norris.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until October 4, 1982, at 10:00 a.m. which is regular meeting time.

APPROVED:

Emogene W. Suggs
Clerk

Junior Dew
Chairman