

Loud Crowd On Hand In Schools Showdown

BY FLORENCE GILKESON
What was billed as a joint meeting of the Moore County boards of commissioners and education turned into a noisy confrontation in the old courtroom in Carthage Monday night.

An estimated 400 persons jammed into the room to hear members of the two boards argue over the 1981-82 budget proposal, which represents a 17.6 percent decrease over the county's current expense appropriation to the schools for 1980-81.

The room was crowded, temperatures and tempers were high, the public speaking system was inadequate, and the result often was a shouting match between members of the two boards. Most seats in the courtroom were taken, and people stood at the rear, along the sides and crowded along the front entrance and into the hallway.

Purvis Asks 5¢ Tax Hike To Help Schools; Tabled

County Commissioner Arthur L. Purvis on Monday night proposed a five-cent tax rate increase "to provide the services the county deserves and wants."

Chairman Charles Phillips pointed out that the board's action was tentative and the 1981-82 budget would not be formally adopted until after the public hearing scheduled Monday, June 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the old courthouse in Carthage.

Purvis said the additional five cents on the \$100 property valuation would produce \$46,000. He proposed that \$400,000 of this go into the school's current expense budget, \$100,000 be placed in the county's contingency fund, \$25,000 for recreation and \$16,000 for Sandhills Community College.

The budget discussion came during a special meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners, which preceded a joint meeting with the schools board.

Purvis opened the meeting by saying the board made a mistake at a special June 5 meeting when it tentatively approved the \$11,198,580 budget for 1981-82. He made a motion to rescind the

June 5 action, and his motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee Williams.

His recommendation, which was tabled on a 3-2 vote, called for turning the major portion of the additional ad valorem tax money over to the public schools' current expense budget.

Warren Baecht, volunteer weather observer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, told The Pilot that his thermometer registered 103 degrees on Monday and Tuesday. It was 102 degrees Sunday.

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on policy. "You want to carry out policy and administration and everything," Vaughn said. "Then you hold joint meetings like this and embarrass everyone."

In answer to another question, Mrs. Frye estimated that about three percent of the school budget is spent on administration.

Phillips was surprised and (Continued on Page 14-A)

Phew! It Hit 103!

With the first day of summer still five days away, Moore County can claim three successive days of temperatures above the 100 degree mark.

Baecht's weather-measuring instruments, standard equipment issued by USDA, are located in the backyard at his home on Lakeview-Airport Road near Whispering Pines.

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worse condition than we are this year, and I admit that I contributed to that error. I'm the first to admit that, but we should try to reach a compromise," said Williams.

"Frankly, I don't believe we can operate on those funds, and I don't believe the Local Government Commission will let us," he continued.

Purvis argued that the contingency fund is too low in the budget adopted June 5, that revenues were inflated, and "we'll have to turn to tax anticipation notes."

"That budget was tentative," said Commissioner Coolidge Thompson. "It's not set in concrete yet. It's still subject to study and further revision. Until it's adopted, it would be premature to rescind it."

Commissioner Tony Parker agreed that the budget needs (Continued on Page 16-A)



PEACH SEASON — The peach season is under way in the Sandhills and the fruit is ripening fast. In the above picture Clyde Auman of West End, one of the state's leading peach growers, is showing a customer, Willard Smith of Whispering Pines, some of this week's offerings.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Hearing On County Budget Monday

School, college and recreation leaders are not the only ones hurt by budget cuts proposed by the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

Economic development, planning, mental health and register of deeds are just a few of the departments and agencies which also are targeted for budget decreases in the 1981-82 budget.

For several other county offices the increase is little more than nominal and will not be sufficient to offset the inflation factor.

dealing with the budget problems faced by department heads. Moubry will be leaving his position at the end of the month, and the department leaders are approaching him while there is someone left to approach. As of July 1, there will be no one left in a top administrative position until (Continued on Page 16-A)

Federal Cuts Hang Heavy Over Train Service Here

Amtrak passenger service through Southern Pines remains uncertain in spite of more positive action recently taken by the Commerce Committees of both houses of Congress.

Jung Lee, media relations representative with Amtrak in Washington, D.C., said the decision about continuation of routes will not be made until July or August.

"We have not made any decisions about the routes, which to preserve and which to discontinue. We are waiting for the conclusion of Congressional budget action," Lee told The Pilot.

The future does appear more (Continued on Page 16-A)

Moore Loses Cathy Bryan To High Post In Iredell

Moore County is losing its veteran industry hunter to the Mooresville Chamber of Commerce.

Cathy Walker Bryan, whose employment with the Moore County Economic Development Program has not been continued by the county commissioners, has accepted a position as executive vice-president of the Mooresville chamber, effective June 29.

Mrs. Bryan has been serving as interim executive director for the (Continued on Page 16-A)

of the Moore County News. He presently serves as vice-chairman of Pioneer Service Corporation, the non-profit (Continued on Page 16-A)

Ewing Given Another Job As Acting County Manager

Robert S. Ewing was given a second job with Moore County Monday night.

Ewing, who will become economic development director on July 1, was tapped by the county commissioners to serve as acting county manager until a fulltime manager can be appointed.

His new duties carry no additional salary. The prominent Republican was once rumored to be in line for the job of county manager, but the GOP-dominated board of commissioners selected him for the economic development post instead. In the meantime, the board has advertised the position in three daily newspapers and two publications with statewide circulations.

Chairman Charles Phillips recommended this action at a special board meeting Monday night. He pointed out that County (Continued on Page 16-A)

THE PILOT LIGHT

REDISTRICTING—It now appears that Moore County will remain a single-county district in the State House of Representatives.

which is made up of Moore, Randolph, Chatham and Orange, will remain as it is now constituted.

Judge Gavin, GOP Leader Dies At 65 At Home Here

Former Superior Court Judge Robert Lee Gavin, one of North Carolina's best known Republican leaders, died Thursday morning at his home in

Pinehurst. Gavin, 65, who died of cancer, had been in failing health for the past six months.

World War II. After his graduation from law school, Gavin joined the family law firm, Gavin, Jackson and Gavin, in Sanford.



Robert L. Gavin

A former state Republican chairman, Gavin twice ran for Governor. In his first try for the state's top office, in 1960, he garnered 46 percent of the vote, making him one of the first GOP candidates in modern history to show such a substantial gain in the North Carolina gubernatorial race.

In 1953 he was appointed assistant U.S. district attorney for the U.S. Middle District of North Carolina. Four years later he was appointed U.S. district attorney.



IN PAGEANT — Mary Jo Haywood as "Miss Aberdeen 1981" will participate in the Miss North Carolina Pageant in Raleigh next week.

Miss Haywood will participate in swimsuit competition on Wednesday evening, talent competition on Thursday evening, and evening gown competition on Friday evening. She will also be interviewed on Friday. For her talent entry, she will play the piano.

County Administrator Larry Moubry said last week that he was spending much of his time (Continued on Page 16-A)



Robert S. Ewing