

## Transportation Board Approves Right-Of-Way Funds For Bypass

An additional \$2.78 million was approved Friday by the N.C. Board of Transportation for right-of-way acquisition along all but a small portion of the proposed 4-mile-long Shallotte bypass.

Another \$418,000 had been previously approved by the board for acquisition of right-of-way along this major 3.75-mile section, which runs from just east of S.R. 1316 (Old Shallotte Road) to a half-mile west of S.R. 1136 (Red Bug Road).

"They're having problems with one section of it," said Jones, which he added isn't unusual.

Using advance acquisition funds, a section of Shallotte North subdivision has already been acquired, while the state is still in the process of acquiring a tract near the south end of the bypass owned by Brunswick Christian Center.

Jones said right-of-way plans are still being developed for part of the bypass, with acquisition not yet begun there.

Right-of-way acquisition is expected to total about \$3.75 million, with the total cost of the project estimated at about \$10 million.

In related action, the board also authorized acquisition of a one-story brick house owned by William Hankins which is partially located in the right-of-way. The board asked the Attorney General's office to begin proceedings to acquire the entire structure.

### Agreement Approved

The board also approved an agreement with the Town of Ocean Isle Beach relating to its thoroughfare plan. It specifies the state will turn over to the town responsibility for maintaining Shallotte Avenue, while the state continues to maintain the causeway road (N.C. 904); First Street west to three blocks beyond Dunn Street where it abuts a private roadway and east to Winston-Salem Street; the block of Winston-Salem Street between First and Second streets, and Second Street from Winston-Salem Street to Shallotte Avenue.

The remainder of Second Street, and all other streets within the town limits, will ultimately be maintained by the town, with some designated as minor thoroughfares.

The agreement had been approved by Ocean Isle Beach Commissioners on Feb. 10.

### Other Business

In other business, the board: •Added four roads in an old subdivision, Hurricane Haven, to the state system: Eleanor Drive, Frances Street, Loretta Street and William Avenue, with total length of approximately 6,200 feet.

•Allocated another \$12,000 to closer reflect the cost of preliminary engineering, right of way and utilities and construction of the Odell Williamson Bridge to Ocean Isle Beach. Previously \$5,862,005 had been allocated.

•Allocated another \$700,000 toward preliminary engineering, right of way and utilities for a highrise bridge planned to cross the Intracoastal Waterway to Sunset Beach, replacing the current pontoon swing bridge. Another \$270,000 had previously been approved.

•Allocated another \$6,000 for countywide right of way signatures for secondary road plan construction projects.



STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

BACKHOE OPERATOR Richard Klutz was working late Monday night, covering a hole where workmen repaired a water line leak at the county's new 4 million-gallon water storage tank at Bell Swamp. The tank is

part a 24-million-gallon-per day water distribution system that will be ready for customer tap-ons sometime in June.

## County Ready To Throw Water Switch

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wellwater treatment plant on N.C. 211 was pumped at and over its capacity through the '86 summer season in order to meet demand, with wells at Shallotte, Ocean Isle Beach and Sunset Beach also pumped to supplement the county's supply.

Current plans call for the 211 plant to continue in operation, pumping about 3 mgd of water per day.

However, with Phase II nearing completion, UOB members and Lewis are already eyeing expansion possibilities to keep pace with growth.

Robert Nubel, chairman of the UOB, inquired about the economic feasibility of shutting down the N.C. 211 plant, though it has undergone major repairs and improvements over the past several years, and meeting the demand for water in the Southport area by running another 16- to 20-inch main from U.S. 17, along Midway Road or N.C. 211.

The maximum the new system can provide now is 6 mgd, which would not be enough, Nubel noted, to meet the needs of the new Cogentrix plant as well as other customers. The steam-generation plant is expected to go into operation in June, and to buy an estimated 3.5 mgd of water per day. Another Southport customer, Pfizer Chemicals, of which Nubel is plant manager, produces citric acid and uses about two million gallons of water per day.

The county's newest municipality, Bald Head Village on an island off Southport, has also inquired about the availability of county water.

The county is also preparing to install water lines in special assessment districts, linking these lines to the overall county distribution system.

"The overall plan is so piecemeal," said Nubel, noting the need to take an overall view and see how the pieces will come together to meet the county's future needs.

One possibility may be expanding the use of computer projections to anticipate where growth will occur and the distribution system it will require.

### S.A.D. Two

County commissioners on Monday will be asked to adopt a preliminary resolution for extending water lines into Assessment District Two in the Brick Landing area, with a public hearing expected within three to ten weeks after that, attorney Mike Ramos said.

The county will need to acquire right-of-way easements in only one subdivision, Brunswick Shores, where cooperation of most residents is anticipated.

Monday, the UOB also plans to recommend to commissioners that

all of Hide-A-Way Estates be included in the third assessment district, in the Seaside area, not just the north end as first proposed. Lewis cited the increased population in the area and the feasibility of looping with water lines in adjoining subdivisions in his recommendation to the UOB. He recommends connecting with existing lines in Marlee Acres and Breezewood subdivisions.

UOB members also agreed the county should pay for the difference in a 6-inch and 8-inch line along S.R. 1140 (Oxpen Road) bordering Lakeside Subdivision. The subdivision's needs could be met with a smaller line, but the county needs a larger line, engineer Lewis advised, if it is to accommodate future growth in the area. It could extend an 8-inch line to the junction of S.R. 1137 Boone's Neck Road) and still meet fire hydrant flow requirements.

## Ocean Isle Accepts Land Trade

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benefit."

Board members met for two hours prior to Tuesday's meeting to prepare the proposed budget. It lists revenues of \$821,903, which includes \$453,250 in ad valorem taxes based on a 99 percent collection rate. Revenues also show \$75,000 in impact fees, \$50,210 in sales tax refunds and \$34,076 in ABC board revenues.

Expenditures for the 1987-88 general fund total \$791,903. Expenses include \$86,772 for administration; \$44,095 for building inspection; \$225,000 for sewer; \$30,000 for airport improvements; \$133,373 for the police department; \$70,000 for sanitation; \$4,500 for mosquito control and \$71,765 for streets and right-of-ways.

The water department will operate on revenues of \$327,083 and expenses of \$104,201. Revenues for the sewer system are estimated at \$692,900 while expenses are listed at \$81,644.

The board voted Tuesday to purchase two trucks, one each for the water and sewer departments, and a backhoe to be shared by the two. Funds for the equipment will come from the 1986-87 budget.

The board also voted to purchase \$1,000 in coquina to repair streets on the east end.

### East End Disputes

Williamson also addressed the board Tuesday about the construction of a gazebo on the island's east end.

Williamson said the owner was given a town building permit for constructing the gazebo, but that the land on which it was built belongs to

him. "You cannot permit people to build on property they don't own," Williamson said.

"I'm not too sure if the town has the authority to issue permits for gazebos independent of the house," he added.

Williamson said the incident "puts all of the parties in a bad light."

The board took no action on the matter.

The board also discussed, but took no action on, an unrelated incident on the east end where one property owner bulldozed sand along the strand to cover exposed rocks.

"I don't think there were any intentional violations," Mayor Bullington said. "It's obvious the property owner didn't know any better."

Towns are given blanket permits to allow property owners to dump or to bulldoze sand in emergency situations to protect their homes. Commissioner Debbie Fox said the homeowner apparently thought the "blanket permit for the town means more than it actually does."

### Other Business

In other business Tuesday, the board:

•Adopted a noise construction ordinance that restricts building on the island to the hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. during June, July and August.

•Approved an ordinance requiring property owners to post house numbers by June 15. After that date the town will post the numbers and bill the homeowner.

•Adopted an ordinance that prohibits all dogs on the beach strand

from April 1 to Sept. 30. The fine for allowing a dog on the strand is \$100.

•Agreed to post signs at public accessways asking visitors to keep children from playing on the dunes.

•Approved a policy that allows swimming pool owners to fill their pools without having to pay sewer services on the water used. The pool owners must notify the town 24 hours in advance so the meter can be read and the filling monitored by the town. Sewer rates are based on the amount of water used by a household.

•Adopted an ordinance that prohibits the installation of water meters to monitor water usage that is not reflected on both water and sewer bills. Two developments, Sand Castles and Ocean Isle Villas, were issued meters to monitor water used for lawn care and for swimming pools. Ms. Bullington added, "If the condominium owner gets a break, so should the individual home owner get a break on his water bill." The board will decide at its June 16 meeting what policy to take with the two developments that now have separate meters.

•Met in executive session for 45 minutes to discuss personnel. The board voted to ask Town Attorney Elva Jess about the legality of paying Building Inspector Druid Roberson \$150 a month for lease of his personal car on town business.

•Voted to pay Roberson overtime for his work on the sewer system if he works more than 40 hours in a week.

•Rescheduled its June 9 meeting for 4 p.m. June 16.

## Auto Accident Claims Two Lives

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"I don't think it really exploded," Logan said. "When it hit the tree it just started to burn."

Logan said the front doors to the car were jammed shut from the impact of the collision. The emergency crews worked for about 30 minutes to remove the bodies.

The accident remains under investigation by Trooper L.M. Richardson.

The two deaths brings the fatality total on Brunswick County highways to seven for 1987 compared to five for the same period last year, reported Ms. Oakley.

In another accident last Thursday morning, two people were seriously injured in a three-car pile-up on U.S. 17 three miles south of Shallotte.

Rita Canady Blanton, 28, of

Shallotte, and Ruby Long Balint, 47, of Supply, were both seriously injured and taken to the Brunswick Hospital following the 9 a.m. accident.

According to Trooper B.L. Wilkes' report, a 1979 Ford driven by Oral Landis Hill, of Shallotte, had stopped to make a left turn into a driveway when Blanton's 1978 Chevrolet station wagon struck the rear of the Balint vehicle, forcing her car into the rear of the Hill vehicle.

Ms. Blanton was charged by Trooper Wilkes with failure to decrease speed to avoid an accident.

Damages were estimated at \$3,000 to the Blanton vehicle, \$2,000 to the Balint vehicle and \$1,500 to the Hill vehicle.

In another accident last Thursday morning, a Louisiana man escaped serious injury when the tractor-trailer truck he was driving ran off the road and overturned on U.S. 74 about 12 miles west of Belville.

According to Highway Patrol reports, George A. Agent, of Gretna, La., was driving the 1981 truck registered to Ace Transportation Co. when it ran off the road and blew a rear tire.

The truck landed on its left side in the median, reported Trooper D.A. Lewis.

The accident occurred at 12:50 a.m. No charges were filed.

## Warmer Weather Anticipated

Near-normal weather lies ahead for the South Brunswick Islands, local meteorologist Jackson Canady said Tuesday.

He expects temperatures to average around 60 degrees at night ranging up to around 80 degrees during the daytime, with about a half-inch of rainfall.

For the period May 5-11, Canady recorded a maximum high of 80 degrees on the 10th and a minimum low of 39 degrees on the 6th.

An average daily high of 75 degrees combined with an average morning low of 49 degrees for a daily average temperature of 62 degrees. That's about seven degrees below normal, he noted.

Canady measured about two-tenths of an inch of rainfall on his gauge at Shallotte Point.

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