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Local Action Necessary

Board Will Not Commit Erosion Control Funds

By BOBBY HILL

The future of a proposed \$15 million beach erosion-control project for the Yaupon Beach and Long Beach areas of Oak Island was left an open question Monday when county commissioners told proponents of the plan that the commissioners will not make a decision whether or not to financially support the project until the two communities decide on the project and request county funds.

Another issue to be decided is whether or not the two communities will hold a referendum on the erosion-control and hurricane-protection project, and Chairman W.A. Kopp, Jr., answered a question of a Fayetteville owner of beach property by saying he would "assume" that a referendum

would be held.

At this point, Long Beach Councilman Lewis Conley said his council had been advised by their attorney that a vote is not legally required. However, Conley said Mayor O.G. Coleman was in favor of a referendum on the subject. Conley added that he was not in favor of the referendum, "because there is the possibility that it might be defeated."

Kopp repeated that the municipalities will "have to make a decision" before the commissioners can decide whether or not to support the project.

Long Beach Councilman Virginia Christenbury later told Kopp that he was "remiss" in maintaining he had not been requested to support the project proposed by the Corps of Engineers.

Kopp replied that he had not been "formally" requested for aid.

"I'll personally see that you get a request — and soon," Conley replied.

No representative of Yaupon Beach spoke at the meeting.

The beach and dune restoration fill would be capped by a 15-foot-high dune extending the length of the 9-mile project. To slow the erosion of the sand fill, the Lockwood Folly Inlet end would be capped in part by a 900-foot rock seawall and 11 groins. The Yaupon Beach end would also be stabilized with a series of 12 groins.

The cost to Yaupon Beach would be \$120,200 for construction and \$12,200 for maintenance, and the Long Beach share would be \$37,400 for construction and

\$12,200 for maintenance. The 40 percent share of the cost to the county commissioners suggested by Co. Page of the N.C. Water and Air Resources would be \$334,960, and the Yaupon Beach and Long Beach commitments would be lessened proportionately if the county financially supports the project.

The project is designed to abate erosion that has plagued Yaupon Beach and Long Beach for the past several years and furnish some hurricane protection, explained Lynn Valianos, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers coastal engineer.

But no contract can be let until the towns of Yaupon Beach and Long Beach notify the N.C. Department of Natural and Economic Resources of their willingness to pay their "local share" of the cost, explained Col. Albert Costanzo, district engineer.

He explained to the commissioners that the federal government will pay \$9 million, while the state plans to pay 80 percent of the remaining 16 million, and it is up to the local government to pay the rest.

The current problem, Col. Costanzo pointed out to the commissioners, is the lack of a commitment by the two beaches to the state to pay their share of the project.

First authorized as a federal project by congress in 1966, Valianos said, the project was not funded until two and one-half years ago. Then \$270,000 in planning money was raised, with the state contributing 80 percent and the towns of Yaupon, Long, Ocean Isle and Sunset beaches contributing the rest.

A report on erosion problems in the Yaupon Beach-Long Beach area was completed July 1, and assuming both the report and the environmental impact statement go through the Crops review process with no problems, he said, the Dec. 1, 1974 date may see work started.

Kopp and Shallotte commissioner J.T. Clemmons repeatedly urged Col. Costanzo to include the

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CHANCES SEEM BETTER every day that the high-level bridge to Oak Island will be completed by June 1, 1974 — the opening date set by the State Highway Commission. On the north side of the Intracoastal Waterway this construction is underway, while on the Oak Island side work is

progressing well on the elevated causeway that will serve as the southern approach. The high-level span will be fixed and will not open for waterway traffic, providing an uninterrupted flow of traffic on and off the island.

Tour Observes Land Uses

One gal and 40 men took a tour last week to see some new uses of land in southwestern Brunswick County.

Traveling by bus, the group viewed the drainage of Cawcaw Swamp, the Carolina Shares resort community, the dunes protection program at Sunset Beach, and the Azalea Nursery near Ocean Isle. The afternoon tour was concluded with a fish fry at the Shallotte Lions Club Park.

Sponsored by the Brunswick Soil and Water Conservation District, the tour was designed by Chairman James D. Bellamy and District Conservationist Maynard Owens to show the community different ways that land could be used profitably. Those taking advantage of the offer included local farmers, businessmen, bankers, educators, and retirees, as well as associated county and state administrators.

At one of the Cawcaw drainage ditches, W.J. McLamb, Sr., told the group how 21,000 acres of land was being drained by some 17 miles of channels laced through the swamp. The system, draining into the Waccamaw River, is making it possible to farm more land and to build homes in the Cawcaw watershed near Hickmans Crossroads.

At Carolina Shores, just west of Calabash, the group toured through Section 4 of the almost 2,000-acre private

resort community now under construction. It is anticipated that the golf course and clubhouse, the swimming pool, tennis courts and other recreation facilities will be ready for use by next June and the first families will be building their homes and moving in.

In planning the development, Allen W. May said that the promoters "had three objectives: not to disturb the land any more than necessary; to create a thing of beauty; and to make a

profit." In those instances, for example, when a tree marked for saving might be inadvertently damaged by a bulldozer, a tree "doctor" was responsible for patching the scar to preserve the tree.

At Sunset Beach the problems of erosion and the need for adequate ocean-front protection was discussed by Col. James E. Gordon, Brunswick County Shorelines Protection Officer, and Ed M. Gore, local

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Record Tax Collection

A record collection of one-cent sales and use tax in Brunswick County has been reported by the N.C. Department of Revenue.

According to the state department report received today, collections in the county during August totalled \$76,762.17 — nearly \$10,000 more than the previous high recorded last September. That total was \$66,771; other monthly totals in excess of \$60,000 were reported last October, and May and July, 1973.

The August total will be added to the July and September collections, to be distributed to the county and nine municipalities on an ad valorem basis.

Town Office Filing Slow

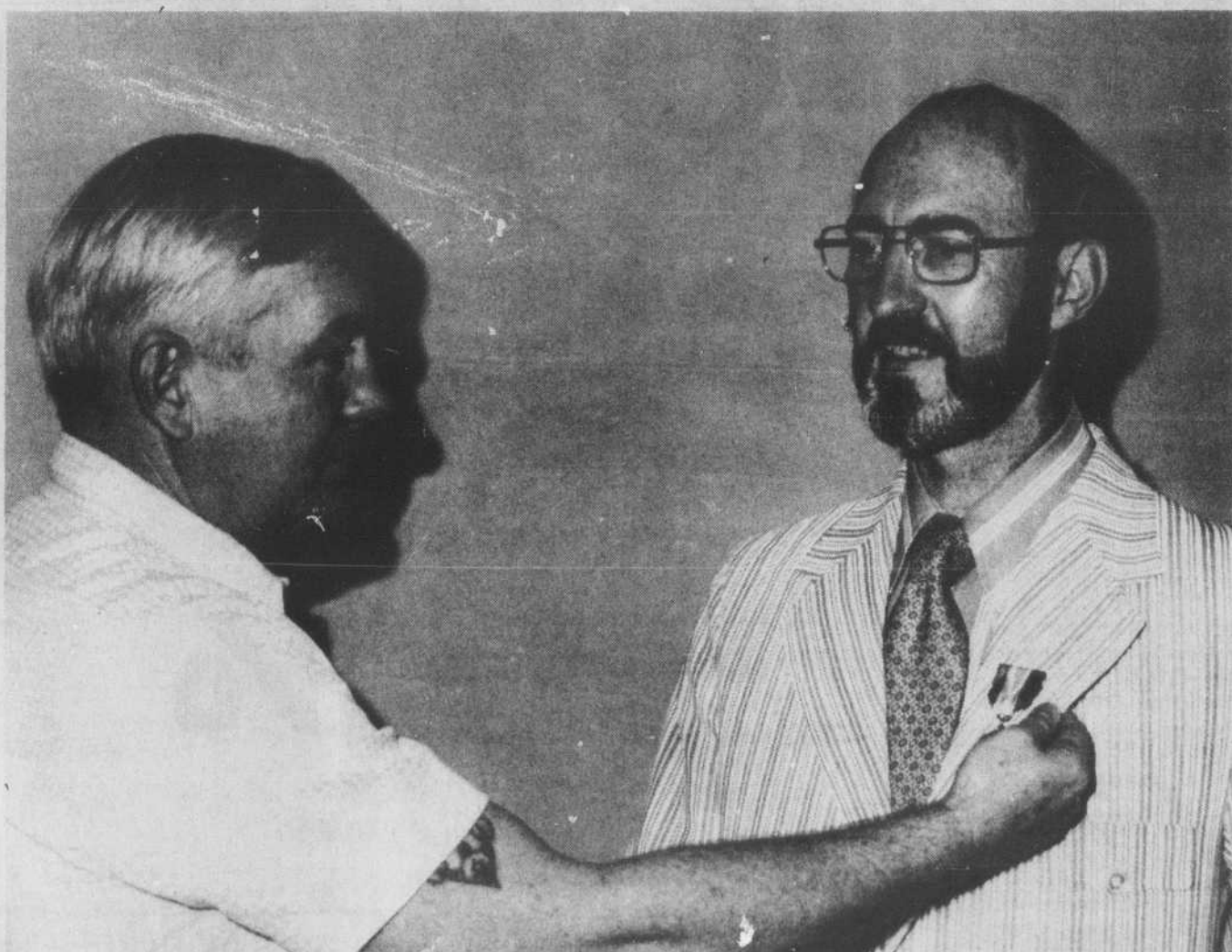
As of Tuesday afternoon, only three persons have filed as candidates for municipal offices in the upcoming elections November 6 for the four incorporated sections in this area of Southport, Long Beach, Yaupon Beach, and Boiling Spring Lakes.

Incumbent Commissioners of Yaupon Beach Frank Aman and William E. Smalley have filed for election, according to Ernie Rees, chairman of the Board of Elections.

Only Glenda L. Jones of Long Beach has filed to run for one of the three commissioner spots and one mayor position that will be up for election this fall in Long Beach.

Neither Southport nor Boiling Spring Lakes have reported filing of candidate fee for the election; however, the deadline for all such filing in all the municipalities is noon, October 12.

Voter registration will also be allowed for the fall election until October 8.



CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION — one citing "meritorious service" and accompanied by a medal—have been awarded to Dr. Norman A. Templon, Jr., right, former medical advisor to Selective Service Board No. 10 of Brunswick

County. His duties ended when the local office was merged with others in the region and relocated in Wilmington. William H. Crowe, chairman of the local Selective Service board, pins the medal on Dr. Templon.

Southport Aldermen Meet

Street Paving, Speeding Traffic Concerns Board

The paving of streets in black neighborhoods, Brown and Root traffic speeding through residential areas, and a possible curfew that would end what Police Chief Herman Strong termed "panhandling" among teenagers were among matters of business discussed Thursday night by the South-

port Board of Aldermen. No immediate action was taken on any of the three topics; however, the maintenance of city streets — particularly Lord Street — is expected to receive prompt attention.

Mrs. Cora Davis, serving as spokesman for a group that reportedly includes several church bodies, told members of the Board of Aldermen she intended to register complaints with several organizations, including the NAACP, charging discrimination in street maintenance by the city — "if something isn't started soon." She noted that Southport relies heavily on federal, state and revenue sharing funds, and that discrimination — if shown —

would jeopardize these allotments.

This was her group's third request for help, Mrs. Davis said. According to the spokesman, all the work done on curb and gutters in her neighborhood has been done by volunteer labor. Curb the streets, she told the board, "and we'll pay for it."

Mayor Dorothy Gilbert noted that maintenance was necessary to "save" streets; Mrs. Davis replied that Lord Street needed saving, too.

City Manager Alvin Kornegay was instructed to work with residents of that area to get the streets curbed and guttered, and the motion included a "firm commitment" that paving of Lord Street between St. George and Owens streets receive top priority. It was noted that contract work might be necessary because of a personnel shortage on city

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Shooting Takes Life Of Woman

Mrs. Vivian Lewis, 30, of Supply was shot to death early Thursday while driving to work by an assailant in another car who fired three shots into her with a .308 caliber rifle.

Within 15 minutes of shooting, 37-year-old longshoreman Johnnie Pickett of Southport surrendered to Brunswick County Sheriff's Department officers at the Southport jail.

Pickett has been charged with the first-degree murder of the victim, according to Chief Deputy Melton McCumbee. He is being held without bond pending a preliminary hearing on September 21.

Deputies said Mrs. Lewis and Pickett, both divorcees, were acquainted with each other.

The shooting took place at approximately 7:45 a.m. on Lanvale Road in the vicinity of Leland.

Mrs. Lewis was shot while driving to Dupont, Inc., where she was employed. Deputies said two passengers in the victim's 1971 station

wagon were also en route to the Dupont plant. Neither of the passengers were injured.

An investigation by sheriff's department officers revealed that Pickett followed Mrs. Lewis' vehicle from the Bolivia area. On Lanvale Road, he attempted to force her vehicle to halt.

The two passengers in the Lewis vehicle stated the suspect blinked the lights of his car and pulled in close proximity of the victim's car.

The woman passenger in the car reported she heard noises "like a car back-firing." A man riding in the rear seat reportedly rolled to the floor of the car for protection.

Witnesses told deputies that the suspect held a rifle out of the left window of his vehicle to the side of the road.

Pickett is reported to have stopped behind the halted vehicle and walked to the car and fired a third shot into the victim.

Witnesses report that he opened the car door and said,

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Car Hits, Kills Lakes Resident

John J. Kane, 58, of Boiling Spring Lakes and recently appointed to the board of commissioners of that community, was killed shortly after noon Saturday when struck by a vehicle on South Shore Drive.

According to Police Chief M.R. Folding, Kane was riding a bicycle when hit by a vehicle operated by mail carrier Archie M. Blohm. Coroner Lowell Bennett termed the mishap unavoidable, and Folding said Monday that no charges would be filed.

Kane was not killed instantly but was dead on arrival at Doshier Memorial Hospital. Gilbert Ambulance Service of Southport answered the call.

Kane's funeral service was held Monday morning at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Southport.