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BALD HEAD ISLAND Golf Course, scheduled to open for play this fall, will be one of five courses in Brunswick County. The layout, with scenery ranging from oceanside to forest to a

combination of the two as shown here, was designed by George Cobb, who also prepared the championship course at Oak Island. The photo is by Geof Nesossis of Carolina Cape Fear.

71 - Percent Increase Sought

School Board Finalizes County Funding Request

By BILL ALLEN
The Brunswick County Board of Education has decided to submit the proposed \$4,735,884 school budget for 1974-75 to the county commissioners.

After a short discussion Wednesday night, the board voted unanimously to instruct Supt. Ralph King to present

the budget to County Manager Neil Mallory and the board of commissioners. Supt. King told the board he had already scheduled a meeting with County Manager Mallory on Sunday to discuss the budget. He expressed the hope the proposed budget could be presented to the commissioners on Monday.

Member May W. Barbee said the budget was "a fair or realistic statement of our needs." The tentative request of the board of education involves

an 87-percent increase overall and a 71-percent rise in local funding, compared to last year's final budget.

The board voted unanimously to employ L.R. Evans and Associates of Raleigh to be the architect on the planned construction work at Union Primary, Lincoln primary, Waccamaw primary and Bolivia primary schools. Funds for the county project, costing \$1.7 million, came from the state bond issue, which was approved last November by state voters.

The board held a long discussion about two other architectural firms before Chairman Wilber E. Rabon recommended that Evans be employed.

During the discussion, Member William T. Bowen said that the board should keep open the option of being able to recommend an engineering firm to work with the architect.

Members decided to invite a representative of the Evans firm to a board meeting and discuss engineering needs for the construction work. After that meeting, the board will take action to employ an engineering firm.

Assistant Supt. P.R. Hankins announced that the county school system will receive a \$187,102 grant from the Emergency School Aid Act (ESAA) to help improve math achievement for students in grades four to six who are a year or more behind in the area of study. The math program will serve

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SPECIAL MEETING

The Brunswick County board of commissioners will hold a special meeting Tuesday night at 7 o'clock at the Hood Building to discuss negotiations to purchase well sites and review the school budget with the board of education, Chairman William Kopp has reported.

County Agent Coleman Cited

Milton Coleman of Brunswick County has been named the top young agricultural extension agent for Southeastern North Carolina.

The N.C. Association of County Agricultural Agents presented Coleman with its "Young Agent Award" Monday night during the association's annual meeting at Nags Head.

Coleman, 32, was cited for his work with extension 4-H and livestock programs.

A native of Tabor City, Coleman joined the Brunswick extension staff as an assistant agent in 1966. He was promoted to an associate agent in 1970 and to a full agent in 1973.

Coleman is a 1955 graduate of North Carolina State University with a B.S. degree in animal science.

Tax Distribution Made

Net collections of the local-option sales and use tax in Brunswick County during April amounted to \$52,085, the State Department of Revenue has announced.

The department also noted that Brunswick County received \$139,027.74 from the county sales and use tax collections during the first three months of the year. The quarterly collections amounted to \$140,436.32, but the department deducted \$1,408.58 for collecting the money.

The county will receive \$118,493.59 from the total quarterly collections. Cities and towns in the county receiving funds from the money include Boiling Spring Lakes, \$832.59; Bolivia, \$60.84; Holden Beach, \$1,540.15; Long Beach, \$7,811.90; Ocean Isle Beach, \$1,041.71; Shallotte, \$2,265.82; Southport, \$4,756.44; Sunset Beach, \$755.16; and Yaupon Beach, \$1,469.54.

\$100,000 Mistake Noted

County Water Bids Made; Costly Error Casts Doubt

By BILL ALLEN

The awarding of bids totaling \$2,150,502.50 for the county water system highlighted a regular all-day meeting of the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners Monday, but it was not done without a problem.

"You have good contractors and better than average prices," said Troy Doby of Pierson and Whitman of Raleigh. "The county should be happy with the bids."

Crain and Denbo, Inc., of Durham was awarded the contract to construct the elevated tank foundation with a bid of \$188,860. Six other bids were received for the work.

The board awarded the contract for the 1,000,000-gallon elevated water tank to Pittsburg Des Moines Steel company of Atlanta. The Atlanta company's \$357,690

bid was under two other companies.

Pierce Ditching Company of Florence, S.C., won the water line contract with a bid of \$1,624,032.50. Six other bids for work were received.

\$100,000 "ERROR"
After the bids were accepted and unanimously approved by the board, E.P. Childs, Jr., of Pittsburg rushed back to the meeting and told board members he had made a \$100,000 error in his bid. The error resulted from a mistake in addition,

he said.

Shortly afterwards, Doby, accompanied by County Attorney Thomas Horne, returned to the meeting to discuss the matter with the board. Both Doby and Horne recommended that the board hold Pittsburg to the bid. "We should follow standard procedures in matters like this," Doby noted.

Pittsburg won the elevated water tank with a low bid of \$357,690. The second lowest bid came from Brown Steel, which bid \$406,200.

During the discussion of the matter, it was pointed out that Pittsburg could seek court relief to try to escape from the contract. It was also noted that it might be cheaper in the long run for the company to build the water tank at the low bid price and absorb the loss.

The board took no more action on the Pittsburg bid since the Atlanta company has a 15-day performance bond from Monday to decide whether or not to live up to

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Once New Hospital Opens

Dosher Board Votes To End Acute Care Service

The Doshier Memorial Hospital board of trustees, by a 4-2 vote split on city-county lines, Monday night passed a resolution calling for an end to acute care services once the new county hospital is completed.

Commenting Tuesday night, Board Chairman W.B. McDougle said he was "grossly opposed to the resolution" which he felt injected the board in the "political fight" of where county medical services should be provided.

"I feel that the resolution is detrimental to the continuation of Doshier in its present operation from a financial standpoint," McDougle said. He noted a \$2,100 profit for April, leaving the hospital only \$2,000 in the red this fiscal year.

The resolution, introduced by county appointee Ralph Nordquest, was seconded by Willie Beatty and voted for by Ed Johnson and Willie Ward. Voicing strong opposition for the better part of an hour were McDougle and board member L.T. Yaskell.

The only member absent from the Monday night

meeting was Tom Gilbert, reportedly out of town on business. However, McDougle said, county appointee A.H. Gainey, Jr., left the meeting after all business apparently had been concluded. City appointee Basil Watts reportedly left when talk of the resolution started.

McDougle said he had no official vote as chairman, but did vote so that the public could see where he stood on the matter.

The resolution, formally drawn and already typed

when presented by Nordquest, stated that the board "goes on record as to the following aspects of the operation of this hospital."

The resolution called for the phasing out of acute care services upon completion of Brunswick County Memorial Hospital, "which is designated to serve all of Brunswick County."

Also, the resolution called for the Medical Care Commission, the Duke Endowment, the board of

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No Sheriff Run-Off

There will be no run-off for sheriff, but Brunswick County Democrats will still have to return to the polls June 4 to nominate a candidate for the State Senate.

Chairman Lester Babson announced that the Board of Elections has received a letter from D.E. Tripp withdrawing from the race for the Democratic nomination for sheriff.

Herman Strong, who thus gains the nomination without a second primary, defeated Tripp 2,191 to 1,234 in the first race and came within six

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Paving Plan Okayed, Also

Beach Council Approves Town Engineer Position

The Long Beach Town Council voted Thursday to authorize the position of town engineer, reversing a two-week-old decision to defer action until after the 1974-75 budget is prepared.

Town Manager Frank Kivett, who suggested the hiring of a \$12,000-a-year engineer at the May 2 town meeting, Thursday asked the council to "reconsider" its earlier 4-2 vote that tabled the matter.

"No one could be employed until after July 1, anyway," Kivett told the council, because of the necessary advertising and interviews.

And he assured the council that, although an increased budget is possible, the engineer's salary will require no extra town funds.

The engineer would pay for his own services," Kivett said, citing a need for professional service particularly in conjunction with the proposed town water system. Powell Bill funds (for roads) can be applied to the engineer's salary, a point Councilwoman Virginia Christenbury said she did not recall from the May 2 meeting.

The vote Thursday night

was unanimous except for an abstention by Councilwoman Nancy Leggett. Councilman Ellis Dudley, who earlier had introduced the motion to defer action until budget time, introduced the motion to create the new town job.

Kivett is authorized to advertise and fill the position for up to \$12,000. Anything more would go before the town council.

STREET PAVING

The council approved a new street paving plan, with possible changes when the town gets down to the "nitty-gritty later on." Part A calls for the town to pave a certain number of streets each year; part B involves the participation of property owners on a 50-50 basis.

The planning board will have initial responsibility for determining which streets the town will pave, with recommendations to be reviewed by the council. The 50-50 plan also would be routed through the planning body.

Kivett said he understood that until now property owners have not shared in the cost of paving a particular street. "Apparently we need

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Memorial Day Closings

City, county and state offices will be closed Monday in observance of Memorial Day.

Banks and savings and loan institutions will remain open, however. The Post Office will be closed except for regular box service.