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A SOARING GULL glides smoothly past a row of blackfish flag-markers at the old Southport Yacht Basin. Stormy weather Sunday left the

fishermen in port; the flags were still under an overcast late afternoon sky.

Commissioners Hold Session

County Road Fund Cut; Area Water Work Set

By BILL ALLEN

The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners spent a great deal of time discussing secondary road needs, and then approved three matters on split decisions during a regular monthly meeting in Southport Monday.

Chairman William Kopp, Jr., and Grover Sellers, county maintenance superintendent, told the board there will be less money available to make needed repairs and improvements to secondary roads in Brunswick County this year.

Kopp said he had just

received the "distressing" news that the 1974 - 75 state secondary road budget has been reduced 38 percent from the 1973 - 74 level. The state will spend only \$17 million this year as compared to \$28 million in 1973 - 74.

The state reduction,

Chairman Kopp reported, will mean Brunswick County will receive only \$149,001 for secondary road improvements in 1974 - 75. Last year, he pointed out, the county received a total of \$239,000.

Kopp made the report while

Sellers was discussing needed secondary road improvements with the board. The board spent more than an hour talking about secondary roads during the meeting.

Commissioner James W. (Bubba) Smith said he was concerned about "uncalled for" drainage conditions existing on SR 1443 in the Navassa area. "It (the road) is a plain case of neglect," he declared.

"We should not allow any road in this county to get into such shape. The road is a disgrace to the people who live on it because the stagnant water in the ditches can cause diseases."

WATERSHED NEED

Kopp said he agreed that the drainage problem had to be improved. He said the road was a "prime example" where the state watershed program could help. The program, he said, is designed to combat mosquitoes breeding in roadside ditch water.

In past years, Kopp explained, the county had a watershed program which had to be eliminated because

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Ready For Board

2,300 Names Backing Doshier

Mrs. Leila Pigott says she has over 2,300 signatures on a petition to the county commissioners to keep Doshier Memorial Hospital.

The petitions will be presented Thursday night to the Southport aldermen. The aldermen will submit the signatures to the county commissioners.

The petition asks the commissioners to "give the residents of Smithville Township a chance to vote on

the establishment of a Hospital District" to keep Doshier open.

Both the commissioners and the Doshier trustee board have voted to close the hospital when they county opens a new hospital near Supply. The opening of the new hospital has been predicted by hospital architects for early 1976.

The county commissioners are empowered by law to call

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Lakes Board Holds Meeting

The Boiling Spring Lakes commissioners met Monday and postponed adding 6,884 feet of Reeves Telecom road to the city street system until reported discrepancies are corrected.

New building inspector Larry Nielsen also reported at the meeting, saying he is now making regular inspections to insure the town's building codes are complied with.

The commissioners moved to improve a site on Boiling Spring Road for a playground. Reeves Telecom reportedly offered the use of a bulldozer to clear the area. The town will also use its grader and backhoe for the project.

The commissioners approved the purchase of a truck for the street department. They also agreed to re-advertise for bids on a used police car.

Complying with a new county policy, the board agreed to ask for mosquito spraying by the county.

Also in Boiling Spring Lakes news, the official canvass showed the beer vote passed 87 to 24. Off-premise sales of malt beverages are now authorized and applications can now be made, according to the town office.

Designation Has Problems

Price Sees Higher Pay For County Tobaccomen

By BILL ALLEN

Upper stalk tobacco or "B" grade leaf should sell for over \$1.00 per pound this season, said Manager Ralph Price of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) in Shalotte.

Price, admitting he was more optimistic at this time that most Brunswick County tobacco farmers, predicted that tobacco will sell for prices ranging between \$1.00 and \$1.10 to \$1.15.

"The prices will go over \$1.00 per pound because tobacco company representatives have told me there is a shortage of upper stalk or the "B" grade leaf,"

Price stated.

The ASCS office manager said he agreed with Brunswick County growers that prices should be higher than his prediction because of increased production costs this year. "But I know that farmers will be better satisfied with prices in the dollar range than with what they have been receiving," he pointed out.

Price reported that most Brunswick County tobacco farmers where "sick because of the low prices" they received when the markets opened last month.

"During the first week the markets were open, tobacco

was selling for less than it did last year, and it still is," he declared. "This is happening despite the known fact that production costs this season have increased about 40 percent over last year. Our farmers became discouraged because they knew they could not make money to pay their debts."

During the opening week of the market, Price reported that one Brunswick County farmer received only 65 cents for the small quantity of tobacco he sold. It is the lowest price he has heard a county farmer selling tobacco for this season.

Since the opening week,

prices have started to climb slowing upward at area tobacco markets. "Although the average is still lower than last year prices are up to better than 90 cents, which allows farmers to break even," he pointed out. "Some

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Water, Sewer Project Cost Up?

Business Zone Hearing Set Here On August 19

The Southport Board of Aldermen will hold a public hearing August 19 to discuss the controversial zoning ordinance in the business district.

The board, meeting in special session last Wednesday night, voted unanimously to hold the hearing to discuss changing the zoning from "C-2" to "C-1" on Howe Street between Bay and 10th streets.

The zoning change, it was

pointed out, would eliminate the 75-foot setback requirement for building constructed beside Howe street in the so-called business district.

Under a zoning ordinance approved about two years ago, new buildings facing Howe Street have to be set back 75 feet from the front property line.

Recently, Carl FormyDuval, who seeks to build an air-

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Mrs. Barbee Will Head County College Program

Mrs. May W. Barbee of Yaupon Beach has been named coordinator for the college transfer program which starts this fall in Brunswick County under joint sponsorship of Southeastern Community College and the Brunswick County school system.

Mrs. Barbee has met in recent days with Southeastern Community College officials and with Ralph C. King, superintendent of Brunswick County schools, to formulate and outline planning and activities for opening the program.

"We are delighted to have Mrs. Barbee as coordinator,"

said Dr. Richard Paulsen, academic dean at Southeastern, in making the announcement. "She is extremely capable for the job and brings a strong commitment to this phase of higher learning."

The program proposes to bring educational services to the population of Brunswick County which may want to take college transfer courses. Enrollees may earn the associate degree, or continue on at a four - year, senior institution. Southeastern plans to set up branches, or satellite campuses, in Brunswick with full curriculum and instructional staff.

Physical facilities would be provided by Brunswick County. SCC is conducting a survey in the county to determine the kind of response prospective applicants may give.

Dr. Paulsen expressed confidence that the program will be well - received, and offer an excellent opportunity for enrollees to take college transfer classes at locations convenient to them, and at times equally convenient.

Mrs. Barbee is a graduate of Duke University with a BA degree in History. She taught one year in the Southport schools, and has worked in part - time self - employment

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MAPPING PLANS — Southeastern Community College officials and faculty members meet with Mrs. May Barbee of Yaupon Beach to discuss plans for starting college transfer classes this fall at several locations in Brunswick County. Seated are Mrs. Barbee, who has been named coordinator of the program, and Robert King, a native of

Brunswick County who is a member of the science faculty at Southeastern. Standing, left to right, are Earl Hughes of Ash, science faculty member at Southeastern; Dr. Ron McCarter, president of the college; and, Dr. Richard Paulsen, academic dean at SCC.