

Schools Hire Architect For Bus Garage Plans

By ED HARPER
News Editor

The Wilmington firm of Ballard, McKim and Sawyer was named Monday night as architect for the central transportation, maintenance and warehouse facility for Brunswick County schools.

The only other firm under consideration — LBC&W of Columbia, S.C., which will design the central government complex for the county — withdrew, declaring that a bid from an architectural firm was unethical, if not illegal. Robert Sawyer of the Wilmington firm refuted the charge, stating that such a bid is within the law and is common practice.

Asst. Supt. John Hicks reported that in conferences with state officials he could find nothing wrong with asking an architectural firm to submit a bid for its services. Board of Education Member Bill Sue saw it as good business:

"We're getting to a bad place when a man can't tell you what he will charge for his services," Sue commented on LBC&W's not offering a bid. Architect Sawyer was more critical in a letter, claiming that LBC&W's non-bidding was a ploy to see what the competition was up to.

The Board of Education earlier had narrowed the choice to the two firms and sought information about their charges. Monday night, the board accepted the total fixed fee of \$17,500 proposed by Ballard, McKim and Sawyer. The vote was unanimous to hire the firm, contingent on one last check with the Attorney General's office.

The \$300,000-plus project is in the fiscal year 1975-76 budget but has not actually been funded, Supt. Ralph King pointed out. In fact, capital outlay projects have

been funded only through last September and current expenses through December, 1975. "If we didn't have a little cushion we'd be in pretty bad shape right now," Sue observed.

Chairman Wilbur Earl Rabon said he did not think the board would be "out of order" to have the funding "reconfirmed."

Sue wondered if the county were more concerned with courthouses or schoolhouses? Answered Rabon: "If it comes to me I'd say schoolhouses, but I'm not the one to make that decision."

LELAND MIDDLE
In other business before the Board of Education, architect for Leland Middle School Lou Evans of Raleigh presented the "Design Development Document" which board

members approved unanimously. He said that Division of School Planning suggestions have been incorporated into the plan, along with local suggestions that did not conflict with the Raleigh department.

Evans said design of the five-grade, 1,000-student facility was approached with energy conservation in mind. Windows have been kept to a minimum, contrary to the trend of 10 to 20 years ago when lighting and air-conditioning were not as good as now.

The architect said his office had "excellent — almost unbelievable — cooperation" from local school officials. Leland Principal O.V. Harrell returned the sen-

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CP&L Against Cooling Tower

Carolina Power & Light Co. has told the Environmental Protection Agency that the cost of constructing cooling towers at its Brunswick nuclear plant near Southport is out of proportion to any environmental damage the present cooling system has been shown to cause.

The information is contained in prepared testimony CP&L filed in preparation for hearings on the cooling tower controversy to be held before an EPA Administrative Law Judge in Raleigh on April 5.

According to calculations by Dr. Lewis J. Perl, vice-president of National Economic Research Associates, Inc., of New York, who will testify on behalf of CP&L's position, the

cooling towers EPA is requiring will cost the average CP&L ratepayer \$220 to \$285 over the life of the plant to save commercial and sport fish having a total value somewhere between 12 cents and \$10.27 per ratepayer during the same period.

The cooling towers would replace a cooling system which was previously approved by all regulatory authorities and has already been installed at a cost of approximately \$42.3 million. The company is opposing the requirement that it spend an additional \$72.3 million on cooling towers.

CP&L further points out that operation of the towers

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Board Denies Request For Shallotte 'Complex'

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

Brunswick County commissioners rejected a request Monday to establish an agricultural service center in Shallotte in addition to the new courthouse complex outside Bolivia.

The board voted unanimously — with no opposition expressed — to require all government agencies in the county to locate in the central complex approved by voters last summer.

County Planner Johnny Sutton told the board that the Farmers Home Administration, the Soil Conservation Service, the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service, and the Agriculture Extension Service had made the request for the agriculture agencies

to be located in an agricultural service center in Shallotte.

"We, therefore, recommend that the State Administrative Committee and the Brunswick County commissioners consider the advantages of the agricultural service center being located in Shallotte," said Maynard Owens, who is serving as chairman of the center administrative committee, which represents the four agencies.

However, Chairman Jesse Hicks said the USDA State Administrative Committee "is certainly interested in an agricultural service center being established in Brunswick County and housed with the county government office complex."

"We believe that this arrangement would provide a

much better and more convenient service to the citizens of Brunswick County," said Hicks of Raleigh, who is chairman of the state committee composed of the ASCS, SCS, FCIC, FHA and Extension service.

Sutton reported that the county agriculture committee said that the center should be in Shallotte since most farms are in the western section of the county. But he said "other things must be considered" in dealing with the request.

Sutton said he didn't want to make a recommendation to the board until he was pressed by Chairman Steve Varnam, Jr., and Commissioner Willie Sloan.

"If you are looking to serve the farm population, it should go in that area," the county planner stated. "If you are

looking to serve the entire county, it should go in the complex."

Sutton noted that ASCS is the only one of the agencies that serves just farmers. He said the other agencies deal with as many non-farm families as farm families.

"Separate facilities also would be more expensive," Sutton added.

Commissioner Franky Thomas said the request was "highly irregular" since the people have said they wanted the government agencies in one central complex.

"I think we need to look at all the people as a whole," he noted. "The original concept is to consolidate in one complex."

Owens said that ASCS records show that 1,584 of the 2,214 farms in the county are located within 18 miles of Shallotte. He said the same records show that 1,121 farms are within an 18-mile radius of Bolivia.

He reported that about 90 percent of the full-time farmers in the county live in the Shallotte area. When the ASCS office moved from Supply to Shallotte in 1957, farmer participation increased from eight to 28 percent in two years.

Owens said the SCS records show that 74 percent of the cooperators live within 15 miles of Shallotte while 40 percent live within 15 miles of Bolivia.

He said in the letter that FHA activities are "in

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LITTLE LEAGUE FOOTBALL was beneficiary of a Hee Haw Show held Saturday night at Southport Middle School, sponsored by the Oak Island Dolphin team. Participants included Bobby Russell, Jere Jones, Sharon Greene, Annette Greene, Tammy Whitt, Margaret Horrell, Bobby Burns, Mike Hirst, Everett Helms, Karen Peele, Beverly Webb, John Peele, Ginger Peele, Bob Kruschke, Stevie Vickers, Ken Vickers,

Allen McNeill, Max Head, Judy Jones, Dianne Lewis, Linda Houser, and Billie Russell. Behind - the - curtain helpers included Kelly Morrison, Linda Helms and Barbara Peele. Master of ceremonies was John Peele. Accepting the \$587.31 check from organizer Cathy Burns is league president Jeff Henry (second from left).

Long Beach Water Project Questions Are Not Answered

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

Long Beach plans to hold a water system referendum in May, Brunswick County commissioners were told Monday.

"We are practically ready to hold the referendum," Mayor Pro-Tem Ellis Dudley said. "But we don't want to hold it until we can tell people how much it will cost since it was turned down the last time."

Dudley said the Long Beach board is working to hold the referendum on May 27. If it can't be held then, he said it might have to be postponed until next year. "So you can see we are working under a deadline," he pointed out.

Dudley said the town board wanted to know if the county was going to honor its signed agreement to install

distribution lines within the town and an elevated storage tank. The tank and lines will cost about \$618,298.

The mayor pro-tem also said that the town needed to know how much the county plans to charge Long Beach for water from the county system.

James Wilson of Pierson-Whitman in Raleigh, the engineering firm in charge of both the county and town projects, said the water rate may have to depend on how much money the county has to spend at Long Beach for the tank and lines. He said the rate could be 30 cents per 1,000 gallons if the county does not have to spend the extra money on the construction work.

Dudley said Long Beach would expect to pay a lower water rate if the town had to put up the tank and install the

lines. "We only have two questions," he declared. "We must have answers."

"We can't pass along the answers until they are provided to us," Chairman Steve Varnam, Jr., answered.

If Long Beach is charged 30 cents, how much will Holden Beach have to pay? Dudley wanted to know.

During the discussion, it was pointed out that the county plans to install water tanks for the systems at Holden Beach, Sunset Beach and Leland.

Wilson said Long Beach and Holden Beach will have different systems, but the county would try to keep the water rate around 30 cents if Long Beach installs the lines and tank.

Wilson was instructed to determine the cost of the water if the county honors the

contract. He will report back at the next meeting.

Dudley asked the board if the county would deed the land at Long Beach purchased for the tank. Chairman Varnam said it was too early to discuss it.

Commissioner Franky Thomas said the contract signed between Long Beach and the county needed to be changed. He said it was a "badly worded contract" and the board should consider the "intention."

Dudley said the town could require the county to install 150 miles of water lines in Long Beach under the contract.

Thomas said the former chairman of the county commissioners (William Kopp, Jr.) signed the contract with the town in August of 1974.

Long Beach Commissioner

William Jones said he understood that Long Beach has been moved from Phase I to Phase II of the county water system.

County Manager Don Flowers, Jr., said Phase I was supposed to end at the causeway, but it was no longer practical. Wilson said it will cost the county five to ten times more to run water to Long Beach if the causeway can't be used.

"Getting water to Long Beach has been foremost in our minds," Thomas told the Long Beach delegation.

He said that piling might have to be used to run water to Oak Island. Wilson said it will cost twice as much. "I would say \$1 million is a good guess," he stated.

"We fully intend to get water to Long Beach, but we

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Terminal Observes Black History Month

Throughout the month of February, the Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point has been observing National Black History Month.

Posters have been displayed, books distributed, area activities publicized and articles featured in the terminal's weekly bulletin recognizing famous blacks of today and acknowledging the achievements and contributions made by blacks throughout the nation's history.

Highlighting the month's activities was a formal program presented in the terminal cafeteria on Friday

to which all Sunny Point employees and the public were invited.

The theme was "The Black Contribution to the American Way of Life." A number of black clergymen and other distinguished community leaders participated or attended as special guests, including several Sunny Point black employees active in civic and church affairs. One of the latter, Rev. Arthur Freeman, read the scripture, after which prayer was offered by the pastor of Mt. Olive AME Church, Rev. John A. Humphrey.

Special guests were then

introduced by Sunny Point Deputy Commander, Lt. Samuel Martin. These guests were Hobson Bryant, Mrs. Caronell Chestnut, Miss Alice Crawley, Mrs. Janie Fennell, J.A. Francis, Mrs. Eugene Gore, Percy Hewett, Thomas Jervay, Rutherford Leonard, George McCracken, Franklin Randolph, Charles Rogers, Willie Sloan, Ephriam Swain, and Rev. L.T. Whitted.

Continuing the program, Rev. Manuel L. Dillingham, pastor of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, spoke on "The Black Church and its Contribution to the Black Community." The subject presented by Rev. Leroy Blair, pastor of Warner's Temple AME Zion Church, was "Some Ways in which Blacks have made Your Life Better."

Mrs. Lola Grady then sang a solo, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," and was joined in the last chorus by all assembled. This song has been adopted by the NAACP as its official theme song.

Prelude and postlude piano music for the occasion was rendered by Miss Serian Davis, daughter of Sunny Point Security Guard Sgt. John W. Davis.

In his closing remarks, Sunny Point Commander Col. Walter C. Daniels gratefully acknowledged the endeavors of Mistress of Ceremonies Mrs. Sarah F. Grady who, assisted by Mrs. Marilyn B. General and Mrs. Cynthia Davis Jenkins (all Sunny Point communications

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'Revolution!' Preview Set

A sneak preview of the outdoor musical "Revolution!" will be held on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Community Building on Moore Street, Southport.

The preview is open to the public without charge and everyone is invited to attend.

Miss Susan Griffin, Miss North Carolina of 1975, will appear in the role of Justina Nash.

Miss Griffin, a native of High Point, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Griffin of High Point. Her background in voice and piano is extensive. She attended schools in North Carolina and

preparatory school in Tennessee, where she also studied drama and dancing.

Miss Griffin was a Grand Talent Award winner at the Miss America Pageant. She was one of six of the 50 contestants chosen to participate in the Miss America USO Tour of Europe and the Middle East entertaining service personnel.

In addition, she was chosen to participate in the special entertainment of the 1976 Miss America Pageant.

Miss Griffin emcees and entertains at pageants and

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