



TOO YOUNG TO OPEN OYSTERS well, this youngster had nothing to do but eat—and eat he did—at the Saturday afternoon free oyster roast sponsored by the Sea Captain Market, which celebrated its grand opening last week. Oyster eaters consumed 300 bushels of the hard-shelled delight during the afternoon feast.

Only Board Incumbents Nominated By Authority

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

Members whose terms had expired were all re-nominated during the regular monthly meeting of the Brunswick County Hospital Authority on Wednesday night in Shallotte.

Chairman Mason Anderson and members Albert Parker, Percy Hewett and Cesar Hardy all were unanimously re-nominated by the other members to serve another three-year term.

The action was taken after the board had voted on a split decision to nominate only one person for each of the vacant positions.

Chairman Anderson, Parker, Hewett and Hardy were the only names put in nomination for the four seats on the authority.

After the four members were re-nominated, Chairman Anderson said it was "the first step" in the nomination process since the appointments to the Hospital Authority are made by the chairman of the county commissioners alone.

The authority also voted unanimously to request that County Commission Chairman Steve Varnam, Jr., act on the nomination of Long Beach Commissioner Pauline Morgan, which has been pending for several months.

Mrs. Morgan has been nominated by the authority to represent Smithville Township.

Under the state law establishing a hospital

authority, Chairman Anderson explained during the meeting, the members nominate persons to serve and the selection is made by the chairman of the county commissioners. Members whose terms have expired continue to serve until their successors have been selected and take their oaths of office.

Once the authority makes a nomination, the law says the

chairman must act in a "reasonable time." If the nomination is rejected by the chairman, the authority must submit another name. The process continues until the chairman selects a person nominated by the authority.

Chairman Anderson suggested that the authority take no action to fill the Smithville vacancy since Mrs. Morgan has already been nominated. He said he

believed that the proper action would be to wait until Chairman Varnam acts on the nomination.

Mrs. Morgan was nominated by the authority, but Chairman Varnam requested that more than one nomination be submitted.

After discussing the matter, the authority sent a letter to Chairman Varnam requesting that he reconsider

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County Board Is Upset Over Authority Action

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

The Brunswick County Hospital Authority is being asked to submit more than one name for each expired position.

Brunswick County commissioners agreed with Chairman Steve Varnam, Jr., during a regular meeting Monday to make the request again to the Hospital Authority.

Chairman Varnam expressed concern because the authority nominated only one person—the incumbents—to fill four expired terms. (See related article in this edition of The Pilot.)

Chairman Varnam explained that the commissioners had asked that the authority submit more than one name for each vacant position, "but they have not seen fit to do that".

"They have gone directly against the wishes of this board, which is elected by the people of Brunswick County," he declared.

After obtaining agreement from the other commissioners, Chairman Varnam instructed County Attorney James Prevatte, Jr., to write a letter to the authority requesting additional names. The authority will be asked to provide the additional nominations by the

November 15 meeting.

"This (November 15) will give them ample time if they intend to act," he explained.

Under the law, the authority nominates and the chairman of the county commissioners makes the appointments. But he can't appoint anyone who is not nominated by the authority.

Chairman Varnam said he had a conversation with Executive Director Warren Oliver, who informed him that the four members whose terms expired this month have been re-nominated. He reported that Oliver also said the authority wanted him to act on the nomination of Long

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Democrats Sweep County Election

Clemmons, Vereen Gain Four-Year Terms

Democrats, riding a tide of national and state ticket votes, scored a clean sweep in Brunswick County in the general election on Tuesday.

The Democrats won every office at stake in the election, including William (Billy) Gaither's upset victory in the contest for register of deeds.

Congressman Charles Rose, Governor-Elect Jim Hunt, President-Elect Jimmy Carter and others all polled more votes than any Democrat running on the county ticket.

On the other hand, Arthur Knox, William Kopp, Jr., and Harold Davis received more votes than their national and state tickets, but still lost.

Democrats polled between 6,990 and 6,013 votes while Republicans finished between 5,360 to 3,320.

Cletis Clemmons of Lockwood Folly and Pearly Vereen of Waccamaw became the first commissioners ever in the county to be elected to four-year terms on the county board.

William Stanley, Jr., of Shallotte, Marvin Watson of Smithville and incumbent Vice-Chairman Willie Sloan of Town Creek also won seats on the county board.

Incumbent Coroner Thomas (Tommy) Gilbert, IV, received more votes than any other candidate on the

county ticket in winning his first general election.

Incumbent Allen Ward had no trouble winning Brunswick County in his re-election campaign to the General Assembly representing Brunswick and Pender Counties.

Executive Secretary Linda Babson of the Brunswick County Board of Elections said that about 70 percent of the registered voters in the county cast ballots in the election.

Gaither scored a major

upset when he defeated incumbent Arthur Knox in the race for register of deeds. He defeated Knox by only 156 votes in the closest race on the ballot in the county.

Knox, who has served as register of deeds the past four years, polled more votes than any other Republican running in Brunswick County. But he still lost to Gaither 5,360 to 5,204.

Gaither's victory meant that the Republicans, who held every office in the county except one prior to the

1974 election, will be without an elected office holder after December 1.

Clemmons, who had to win a second primary to gain the nomination, topped the voting for seats on the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners. He defeated political newcomer Jack Hewett, who finished last in the race countywide, 6,619 to 3,430.

Vereen, finishing 234 votes behind Clemmons, placed second in the voting. The man who topped the voting in the

Democratic primary defeated former two-term Commissioner Vardell Hughes 6,385 to 3,453.

Since Clemmons and Vereen topped the voting, they won four-year terms on the board under the staggered term system that takes effect for the first time in the election.

Stanley, who finished in fifth place in the primary, jumped up to third in the general election. He defeated

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County In Tune With State, National Votes

Congressman Charlie Rose topped the voting in leading all Democrats to victory in Brunswick County in the general election on Tuesday.

Congressman Rose, Governor-Elect Jim Hunt, President-Elect Jimmy Carter and other Democrats had no trouble winning their races. In fact, none of the Republicans running for state and national offices were able to run close races in the county.

Congressman Rose scored the biggest victory in the county by rolling over Mike Vaughan of Wilmington 8,494 to 2,417.

Hunt had an easy time beating David Flaherty 7,951 to 2,895 in the race for governor. Chub Seawell polled

68 votes and Arlan Andrews, Sr., 29.

Carter defeated President Ford 7,373 to 3,635 in the county. Thomas Anderson had 30, Roger MacBride 11 and Lyndon LaRouche, Jr., 2.

Jimmy Green beat Bill Hiatt 7,666 to 2,931 to win the race for lieutenant governor. Arlis Pettyjohn had 83.

Secretary of State Thad Eure was re-elected with 7,229 votes while Asa Spaulding had 3,033. T.M. Long had 128.

Harlan Boyles was elected state treasurer with 7,509 while Howard Coble had 2,584.

Incumbent Henry Bridges was re-elected state auditor with 7,227. Michael Godfred finished with 2,643.

Incumbent Rufus Edmisten was re-elected attorney general after beating Ed Powell 7,394 to 2,748.

Incumbent Jim Graham defeated Kenneth Roberson, 7,310 to 2,582 to win re-election as secretary of agriculture. Ed Drury polled 101.

Incumbent John Ingram was re-elected commissioner of insurance with 7,441. Ed Tenney finished with 2,739.

John Brooks defeated incumbent Avery Nye, Jr., 6,789 to 3,337 to be elected commissioner of labor.

Incumbent Craig Phillips was re-elected superintendent of public instruction by beating Evelyn Tyler 7,077 to 2,912. Arthur Nuhrah had

93. R.C. Soles, Jr., running without opposition, won the district state senate seat with 6,724.

District judges elected were Frank Grady with 7,038 and William Wood with 6,516. They had no opposition.

Frank Huskins defeated Samuel Howard 7,362 to 2,847 for associate justice of the Supreme court.

Other state judges elected without opposition included Fred Hedrick, 7,521; Gerald Arnold, 7,437; Earl Vaughn, 7,473; Lynn Tillery, Jr., 7,595; Darius Herrington, Jr., 7,377; Giles Clark, 7,746; Ronald Howell, 7,466; and Robert Gaines, 7,455.

School Salary Data, Funding Tie Denied

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

Another apparent dispute has broken into the open between the Brunswick County manager's office and the Board of Education.

The Board of Education instructed Supt. Ralph King at a meeting Monday night to provide County Manager Don Flowers, Jr., with no salary information until requested by county commissioners themselves.

The action was taken after Flowers requested that King provide him with the salary information.

"I am shocked that financial information is being denied totally against the state Fiscal Control Act and particularly since Ralph King agreed to provide such information last week," said Flowers when informed about the school board action.

"I can only assume that someone wants to keep this information secret."

After contacting county commissioners on Tuesday afternoon, Flowers announced that the second quarter check due the school board would be delivered on Wednesday morning.

Before Flowers made his announcement, it was rumored that the county planned to withhold the \$332,936.82 quarterly check until the salary information was provided.

Flowers told The Pilot that he requested the current salary information to give it to new commissioners elected in Tuesday's general election. The newly elected commissioners have been invited to attend a four-day school on county government next week. (See related article in this edition of The Pilot.)

Flowers said he made the request to King in a telephone conversation last Wednesday. "Ralph told me he would have the information on Friday," he stated.

Flowers produced a memo he sent to King following the conversation last Wednesday. Copies of the memo was sent to commissioners, school board members and County Finance Officer Regina McKeithan.

"Pursuant to our telephone conversation (on October 27), I am requesting your finance officer give Regina McKeithan the following information by Friday, October 29, 1976:

"1) An updated list of all salaries and supplements and travel allowances for professional staff, principals and assistant principals;

"2) An updated salary list of all staff personnel, finance officer, etc., and

"3) Basic benefits and costs for hospitalization, retirement and fringe benefit plans.

"That's about it," added Flowers, who also thanked King for his help in securing bands for the groundbreaking ceremonies at the complex in

the memo. Flowers said he did not think King would have any difficulty providing the financial information. He said the county could provide the information in about an hour.

King said he would have provided the information Friday if Flowers had not sent the memo to school board members. After it was sent, he said he felt he had an obligation to discuss it at a school board meeting.

"We are not withholding any information," King stated. "We provided the salary information at budget time. Now, the same request is being made again four months later. It is a matter of being reasonable in what is requested and how often it is requested."

Flowers said he could not understand why the school board discussed the matter since the salary information was an administrative

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