

Sheriff, Board Clash On Communications

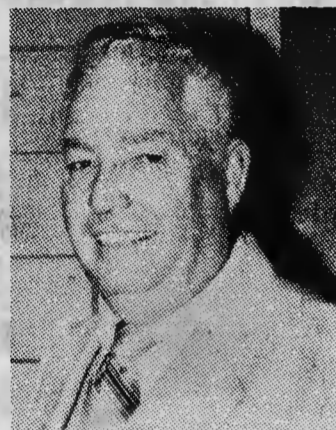
Williams Named Chairman Of Moore Commissioners

Lee Williams was elected chairman of the Moore County Board of Commissioners as the board opened a new term Monday morning.

Williams formerly served as vice-chairman under retiring Commissioner Chairman W. Sidney Taylor, who is county administrator.

Arthur Purvis was elected vice-chairman, and Estelle T. Wicker was reelected as clerk to the board. Mrs. Wicker is county finance officer.

Mrs. Wicker presided for the brief reorganization election, and all of the votes were unanimous. The new board member, James M. Craven, was not present. He is out of town on a government-business trip to the Middle East and will be sworn



Chairman Lee Williams

into office on Dec. 18. Williams and Purvis, who were reelected, were sworn-in by the clerk of court about 10 minutes before the

board convened.

In routine business the commissioners heard a request from Dr. Alfred G. Siege for employment of an additional sanitarian for Moore County Health Department. The health director stated that his department recently lost a secretary who was employed through the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA). Dr. Siege said that he has found another person who is qualified as a sanitarian and who could handle secretarial duties as well. He asked the board to consider hiring such a person.

With fringe benefits included, it was estimated that it would cost about \$12,000 a year to employ a sanitarian-secretary for the department.

On behalf of the Friends of the Library, Dr. Siege also asked the commissioners to consider installation of a communications system in the bookmobile. He reported that it has been called to their attention that the young

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Zoning Decisions Are Made

One rezoning request was denied, one was approved with amendment, and one was approved as requested following public hearings conducted by the Moore County Board of Commissioners Thursday night.

An estimated 15 persons showed up to protest a zoning change requested by Edna M. Cooke to allow development of multiple family dwelling buildings in the historic Midland Road area.

This request, to change approximately 1.65 acres from RA to RM district, was previously denied by the Moore County

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BY FLORENCE GILKESON

Republicans and Democrats clashed Monday in a dramatic series of events which reached a climax when newly sworn-in Sheriff Jerome Whipple filed a temporary restraining order barring the Moore County Board of Commissioners, county employees, and the Moore County Communications Control Board from implementing a change in the communications systems authorized by the commissioners at a special Thursday night meeting.

The confrontation came shortly after the county commissioners convened for their regular December meeting at 10 a.m.

First on the commissioners' agenda, Sheriff Whipple, a Republican, made a plea for the commissioners to reconsider their action of the previous Thursday night, when they voted to transfer the county's Emergency Communications Center from the jail—and the sheriff's control—to a new location. (The measure passed 2-1 with Commissioner Tony Parker casting the dissenting vote on the grounds that he had not had time to study the matter and that the subject had not been placed on the agenda for that night and the public had not been given adequate advance notice. Commissioner Lee Williams was not present at the Thursday meeting.)

Whipple declared Monday that operation of the Police Information Network (PIN) machine is illegal unless operated under the control of a criminal justice agency. The PIN equipment is considered a part of the communications center.

"If I do not have complete control, it's not legal," the new sheriff said, citing terms of the agreement contained in a PIN user contract.

The civil summons calling for

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Stand Pat Position Asserted

In a called meeting Tuesday night the Moore County Communications Control Board reviewed its controversial situation and "we feel as strongly as ever" that a county-wide communications system is needed, reported County Commissioner Carolyn Blue. Mrs. Blue serves as chairman of the communications board.

The communications board met with Moseley G. Boyette, county attorney, to decide the next step in the wrangle between the board, the county commissioners and Republican Sheriff Jerome Whipple. Original plans to meet last night with Whipple, Boyette, and James E. Holshouser Jr., Whipple's attorney, did not materialize, because Whipple and Holshouser were not available.

Representatives of various

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CAUCUS — County Commissioners Carolyn Blue, Tony Parker, Arthur Purvis and Lee Williams, chairman, occasionally went into a huddle Monday to discuss, in whispers, their problems with a communications system change. County Administrator W. Sidney

Taylor, former board chairman, eyes the informal caucus from a distance. Taylor's successor on the board, Republican James Craven, was not present to be sworn into office or to participate in the December board meeting.—(Photo by Florence Gilkeson).

Emergency Number Of 911 Is Goal For Moore In Board Unified Plan

Moore County's Communication Standard Operating Procedures Manual. This action provided for the establishment of the control board, composed of representatives of all emergency service agencies in the county—law enforcement, fire departments, rescue squads, the hospital, etc.

In 1977 a member of the board of commissioners, Carolyn Blue,

was appointed to serve as chairman of the control board. Ultimate aim of the communications control board, aside from the generalities

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contained in the phrase "comprehensive county-wide communications service," can be summed up in three digits:

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Weymouth Making Plans For Christmas Program

There's going to be a Christmas season at Weymouth this year the likes of which the stately old home hasn't seen in a long time.

Moore County school students will put on the programs of Christmas music in a house decorated for the holidays by

other classmates. It all will be open to the public at no charge.

"We would like all of you to come out to Weymouth and enjoy the spirit of the holiday season with us," Admiral I. J. Galantin, Friends of Weymouth president

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Mrs. Frye Is Reelected As Head Of School Board

Following the ceremony held at the Clerk of Court's office in Carthage where Mrs. Lou Frye, Drewry Troutman, John Sledge and Vernon Davis were sworn in as members of the Moore County Board of Education, the board met for their regular meeting a week early.

Robert E. Lee, Superintendent

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of the Moore County Schools, presided over the meeting. Drewry Troutman immediately nominated Mrs. Frye for the position of chairman of the board. She was unanimously reelected by the board and presided over the meeting. After a few opening remarks

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Mental Health Offers Service For Industry

Businesses and industries in Moore County may soon benefit from a new mental health service designed to help employers cut down on such problems as

employ turnover, absenteeism, and reduction in productivity.

"It's expensive to train new employees, and companies can save money by helping their people work through some of their problems," says V. Paul McDonald, manager of the Moore County unit of the Sandhills Mental Health Center. McDonald added that companies also benefit when employees are happy and better able to produce and work compatibly with fellow workers.

Known as the Employee Assistance Program, the new service will eventually be offered to all businesses, industries and other organizations in Moore County. It is strictly a voluntary matter, and only those companies interested in the service will be expected to participate.

The Employee Assistance Program basically is aimed at helping employees at all levels

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Planning Board Meet Is Tonight

The Southern Pines Planning Board will meet tonight (Wednesday) in the Municipal Building Council Chambers at 7:30.

Included on the agenda will be the request for a conditional use permit to allow the development of a group home for mentally retarded adults at 340 E. Pennsylvania Ave.

The Town Council has already given tentative approval for such

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Youth, 15, Killed In Collision; Driver's Parents In Other Car

Fifteen-year old Gary Franklin Thompson became the 11th traffic fatality in 1978 on Moore County highways in a head-on collision Monday morning.

Trooper W.D. Waters of the State Highway Patrol stated that the youth from Candor, Rt. 1, died instantly in the 11:30 accident on N.C. 73 about two-

tenths of a mile west of Jackson Springs.

Thompson was a passenger with James Ray Lynthacum, 21, Jackson Springs, Rt. 1, who was injured along with the other driver, Roger Ado Brown, 28, Biscoe, Rt. 1, and Brown's passengers, Mary C. Lynthacum, 37, and Curtis Lyn-

thacum, 43, both of Jackson Springs, Rt. 1.

Curtis and Mary Lynthacum, riding with Brown, are the parents of the other driver. They suffered broken ribs and multiple injuries and were admitted as patients at Moore Memorial Hospital. The two

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DEATH SCENE — A head-on collision on the shoulder of N.C. 73 near Jackson Springs brought death to a Candor teenager Monday morning. Trooper W.D. Waters (left) investigated the accident.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Moore's Audit Showing Over \$10 Million Spent

Moore County had general government funds expenditures exceeding \$10 million for the year ending June 30, according to an audit review presented to the county commissioners Thursday night at a special board meeting.

The auditors presented a summary showing that by the end of the last fiscal year, Moore County collected \$9,522,032 as general government funds

revenue (including transfers) and spent \$10,063,724. Nevertheless, there was a fund balance at the end of the year when the year's revenues and expenditures were combined with fund balances at the beginning of the year.

Three auditors, King Moore Willis, H.A. Brogden, and Roger Simmons, from the John C. Muse

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Full Calendar Slated For Civil Court Term

Court officials face a heavy docket, including 22 cases for trial and 62 "clean-up" cases, for the Dec. 11 civil term of Moore County District Court. Judge D.R. Huffman will preside.

Cases on the "clean-up" docket will be called and either dismissed or set for trial at the discretion of the judge. Jurors called for service next week will report for duty at 2 p.m. Monday.

The calendar prepared for this court session indicates that a jury will be required for trial of these cases: Kaiser Agricultural

Chemicals, a Division of Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Sales, Inc., versus Don Traylor, Carl Allred, and Robert Henderson, doing business as Seven Lakes Orchards; James R. Callicut versus Jimmy D. Frye and wife; Ambalal R. Patel (Raymond Patel) versus Perry Brothers Tire Service; Olin Tree Service, Inc. versus Albert W. Moss; Willie Lee Richardson and wife, Betty Richardson, versus William Richard Viar, Ryder Truck Rental, Inc. and Sav-a-Stop Services, Inc.

Other jury cases listed on the calendar are: Steva Snead versus Bill D. Jones; Oliver Goode (Sr.) versus Edmond Johnson, executor of the estate of Willie J. Lindsey; William Maurer versus J.A. Richardson, R.P. Brim Jr., Calvin B. Lee Jr., doing business as Richmond County Warehouses; North Carolina National Bank versus James O. Spradley, Horace Mann Mutual Insurance Co., and Clark Chevrolet-Cadillac, Inc.;

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THE PILOT LIGHT

INGRAM—A movement is under way to restore rate making powers of Insurance Commissioner John Ingram which were taken away by the last Legislature.

Under the 1979 legislative action insurance companies are empowered to go ahead and put rate increases into effect even if the Commissioner has refused them, pending an appeal to the courts.

Recently Senator John Henley of Cumberland County said that the action stripping the Insurance Commissioner was a mistake. He indicated that he would not vote to rescind the

action. Several other legislators have expressed the same view, and reports from Raleigh are that Ingram will press for restoration of his powers soon after the Legislature convenes in January.

HUNT—Governor Jim Hunt will lead a delegation of North Carolina Democrats to the National Democratic Party mini-convention in Memphis, Tenn., this weekend.

The convention will open on Friday and continue through Sunday.

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Liquor License

The eighth establishment in Southern Pines received a mixed drink license this past week.

Latest to start serving liquor-by-the-drink is the Sandspur night club on South May St.

Moore County ABC officers are investigating other applicants and a report is expected soon.



SILHOUETTES OF SEASON — A late afternoon sun is reflected on railroad tracks leading south from Southern Pines. The Sandhills Shopping Center water tower looms on the skyline.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).