



THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

80th Year No. 17 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE COUNTY SEAT AT MARSHALL, N.C. THURSDAY, April 23, 1981 15c Per Copy

Bids Accepted For Marshall-Walnut School

By NICHOLAS HANCOCK
Editor

Bids on the construction of the Marshall-Walnut consolidated elementary school were considered at a special called meeting by the Madison County Board of Education last Wednesday, and low bids were accepted and approved by the board in each of the four bid categories.

The general construction contract was awarded to H and M Constructors of Asheville who submitted a low bid of \$372,800 for the eight-classroom K-3 building. The next lowest bid of the nine submitted for the general contract was \$384,800 entered by J. Hilliard Ward, Inc., also of Asheville. Highest bidder on the project was L.P. Cox Company of Asheville with \$550,000.

Architect J. Bertram King, designer of the new school, estimated the total cost of construction would run approximately \$500,000, a figure which included grading the building site and paving drives and parking areas at the school.

Bids accepted Wednesday, including contracts for plumbing, heating and electrical services totalled \$482,574, some \$18,000 less than King's estimate.

The school board has a total of \$551,164.76 in federal, state and local monies to build the first phase of the new school, leaving the board \$68,590.76 as a contingency for any cost overruns or to apply toward completing the facility at a later date. However, King said he did not foresee any significant cost overruns in building the structure.

Other bids accepted by the board were:

Plumbing contract — \$30,000 submitted by Industrial Maintenance Overflow Corporation of Hendersonville. High bid submitted on plumbing was \$40,553 by Moser, Inc. of Asheville.

Heating, ventilation and air conditioning — \$38,000 by 20th Century Heating Company, Inc. of Asheville. Ball Heating and Air Conditioning of Asheville submitted the high bid of \$58,565.

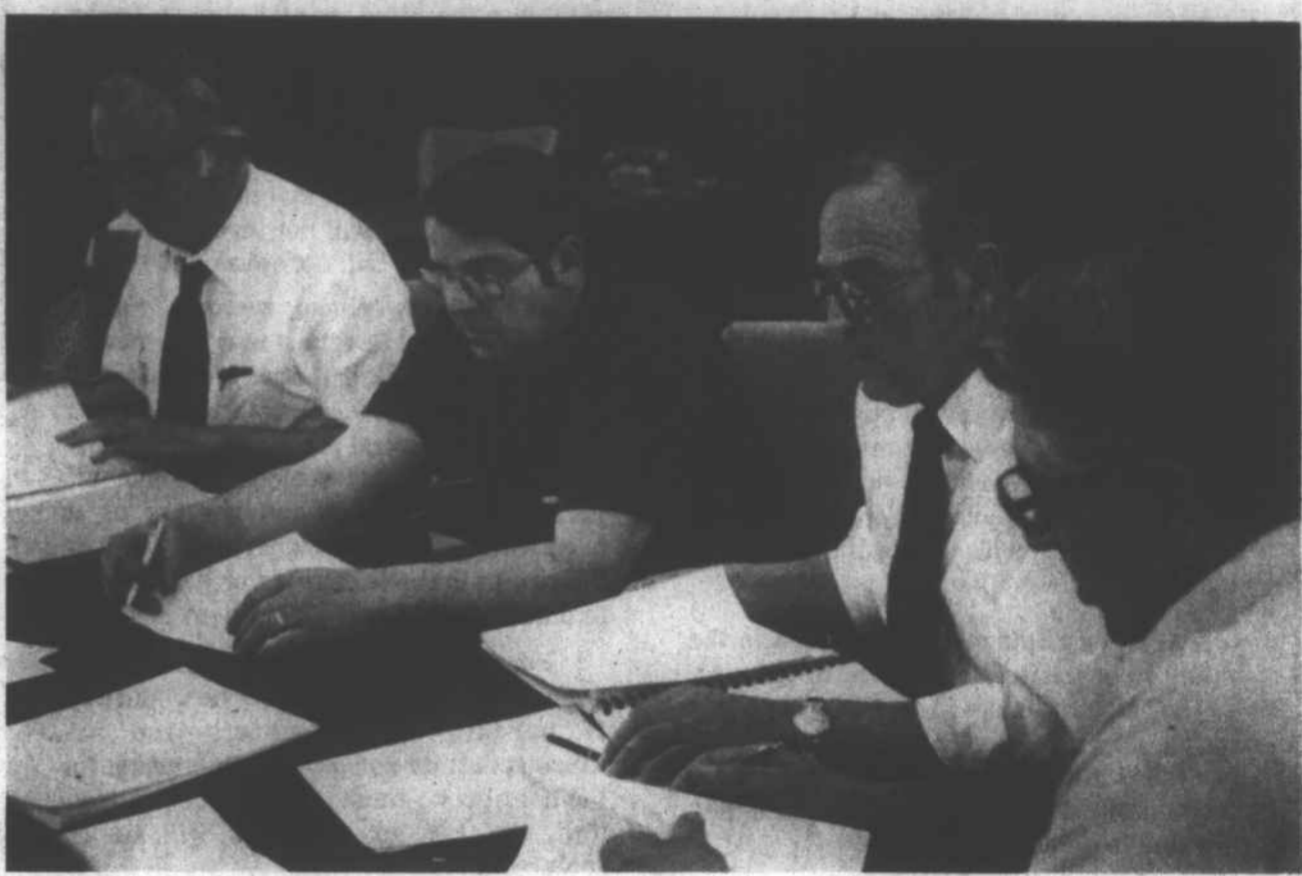
Electrical contract — \$41,574 submitted by M.B. Haynes Electric Corporation of Asheville. High bid for the electrical contract was \$5,469 entered by James D. Wallace Electric Company also of Asheville.

The board considered six or seven bids in each of the above categories.

King told the board that with the bids approved, construction of the school is "expected to start right away." He said the building "should go up quickly" and would probably be ready for occupation in approximately 12 months.

He said the weather now was perfect for beginning construction and the roof should be in place in plenty of time to complete the work during this coming winter.

The school, which will be built on a site near Madison High School, will be used to consolidate grades K-3 from Marshall Elementary and Walnut schools. Future plans call for adding enough classrooms to accommodate grades 4-8 from Marshall and Walnut, a cafeteria and media center.



CHECKING, BIDS — (l-r) Architect Bert King, board chairman Bobby Ponder, superintendent R.L. Edwards and board member Gerald Young review construction bids on new Marshall-Walnut School.

School Board Adopts Budget For 1981-82

By NICHOLAS HANCOCK

The Madison County Board of Education adopted its budget for fiscal year 1981-82 at a called meeting of the board Wednesday, April 15 at the courthouse in Marshall.

The budget, calling for \$747,939.56 in funds from the county commissioners, was unanimously approved by the board after Superintendent R.L. Edwards explained the categories line by line to board members.

A local current expense funds request of \$697,939.56 plus a capital outlay request of \$50,000 brought the total of the new budget to \$747,939.56. The local current expense monies totaled approximately \$20,000 more than the board requested for the 1980-81 operating year. However, the total figures, including capital outlay, is some \$75,000 less than the board's total request for last year.

Five categories of the budget show significant increases in totals for the upcoming year while two categories show decreases in totals.

The total request for instructional funds is \$35,400 for 1981-82, an increase of some \$8,700 over last year's request. The increase is reflected in two areas: salary supplements for instructional personnel and coaches, \$7,000; and a \$1,500 increase in supplies and materials.

See Budget On Page 3

The board is requesting \$5,000 this year for library books, an increase of \$4,000.

Under school board administration, the board is asking for an additional \$2,000 per diem (per day) board meetings bringing the total request to \$5,000.

In the executive administration category, the running of the superintendent's office, an \$11,500 increase is requested over last year's \$31,495 bringing the total request to \$43,000. Edwards is asking for an \$8,500 increase for clerical salaries putting that line item up to \$25,000. Other items include \$1,500 for "Other Subsistence and Travel," up to \$700; \$2,800 for telephone service, up to \$400; \$1,000 for contracted service on equipment, up \$500; \$3,000 for office supplies, up \$400; and \$1,000 for office machines, up \$200.

Plant maintenance funds requested are \$107,100, an increase of some \$21,000 over the budget figure for 1980-81. The largest single line item increase under maintenance is an additional \$20,000 for parts and supplies for building repairs. The requested sum for parts is \$55,000.

The board anticipates a reduction in total cost of plant operations of nearly

\$41,000, according to budget figures. The largest reduction of \$49,600 comes under the fuel oil line item; however, some \$9,000 of that decrease is offset by increases of \$2,000 in the maintenance supervisor's salary, \$4,000 in environmental maintenance at the high school, and \$3,000 in insurance premiums for the county's seven school buildings and their contents.

The other decrease comes under the transportation category where only \$5,000 was requested for the purchase of tires for 1981-82 as contrasted to a \$10,000 request last year.

Edwards, who prepared the budget for the board and school system, told board members "there will be very little improvement going on with the money we're asking for here. With this kind of money, we'll just be standing still, in my opinion," he said.

Board member Ed Gentry commented that the overall \$20,000 increase amounts to about three percent in additional funds for next year. "To stay even with the cost of things, it should be about 13 percent. The commissioners should be very happy with no more requests for funds than \$20,000," he said.

Whether or not the commissioners will be happy with the county school budget will be determined at the next commissioners' meeting on Friday, May 1.

EMC Re-Elects J.O. Corbett

John O. Corbett was re-elected president of the French Broad Electric Membership Corporation board of directors Saturday at the cooperative's annual meeting held at Madison High School.

Other officers elected for the coming year were: Novile C. Hawkins, vice-president; I.E. Clevenger, secretary; James W. Ray, assistant secretary; Albert Freeman, treasurer; and Joe Justice, assistant treasurer.

Several hundred people turned out for the meeting to conduct cooperative business and enjoy the displays and entertainment presented at the gathering.



John Corbett

Increased construction costs and a 50 percent increase in the price of wood waste products, which would have been used as fuel, led to the decision to scrub the project.

However, the co-op is still actively working on rehabilitating the Capitola Dam in Marshall for future electric power generating, Tolley said.

In his message Tolley warned co-op members and consumers that the price of electricity would continue to rise in the future. He assured the members that French Broad EMC would continue to provide reliable electric service at the lowest possible cost. More than twenty craftsmen

from the co-op service area displayed and sold their wares while Rock, Salt and nails, a bluegrass band, and Sold Out to Jesus, a gospel group, entertained meeting participants.

Ronald Shelton of Route 7, Marshall walked away from the meeting not having to worry about his electric bill for a while at least. Shelton won the top door prize of \$200 credit on his electric account.

Four directors were re-elected to the co-op's governing board without opposition. They were Albert Freeman and Joe Justice of Madison County, I.E. Clevenger of Yancey County and Parnell Cooke of Mitchell County.

Ramsey: Budget Cuts Run Less

Cuts in the state budget, particularly those involving education, are not going to be nearly as severe as once projected, according to House Speaker Liston Ramsey in a recent report from Raleigh.

"Somewhere along the way the impression was created across North Carolina that the Legislature was taking a meat-ax to the base budgets of state agencies and would whack out upwards of \$200 million. It's a mistaken impression that needs to be clarified," Ramsey said.

News reports originating from the Legislative Building have indicated that an effort would be made to cut the budget of each agency by six percent. "At no time have I or anyone else in the leadership area of the House or Senate settled on a specific amount of reduction," Ramsey said.

He said the Base Budget Committees have recently completed their work, and the total amount cut from various budgets comes to approximately \$25 million.

Ramsey said the budget cut in the state's public school system will be closer to one-half of one percent, not the six percent as previously anticipated. He said school budget cuts will affect administrative or non-critical areas of education.

"Not a single teacher or teacher's aide that is paid with state money will be taken out of the classroom," because of any state budget cuts, Ramsey said.

The state budget calls for some \$12 billion over the next two-year period, and Ramsey said the deletion of \$25 million "is not exactly an enormous sum." He said the



Liston Ramsey

budget. He said many social or human resource programs will be affected by the federal cuts.

Citing the ailing condition of the state's Highway Fund and other problems brought on by inflation, Ramsey said he did not see how the state can afford to pick up the tab on reduced or discontinued federal funding.

"It could be late this year before the full nature and extent of the federal cuts will be known to us. This could possibly mean that the General Assembly will have to come back to Raleigh for an abbreviated session later in the year," he said.

If a budget adjustment session becomes necessary in the fall or early winter, Ramsey said he thinks the session would run for only a few days.

Health Department Keeping Close Watch On Disease

By SCOTT FITZGERALD

The Madison County Health Department has kept a close watch on a disease that took the life of a Marshall youth last week.

Timothy Frisby died of conditions similar to meningitis that was caused by meningococemia, a disease that affects the blood and circulatory systems. When the department heard of the disease's presence in the county, immediate steps were taken to curb its spreading to other citizens.

Confirmation of the disease reached Ed Morton, director of the department, on Monday afternoon April 13. Immediately, under the advise of Dr. J.M. McCormack of the Dept. of Human Resources the drug, Rifamin, used for treatment of the illness, was collected from pharmacies in both Madison and Buncombe counties.

The nursing staff of the county then began collecting persons who were considered priority patients so they could have a dose of the drug to insure their safety.

Priority persons are those which have come in direct exposure and contact with a person with the illness over an extended length of time. Morton said.

Morton stressed that though the



Ed Morton

in order to give it to another person.

As of Tuesday morning on April 14, the department had given over 50 people the vaccine in the form of capsules and syrup. The staff expressed no alarm but concern in that there was no epidemic scale of the disease but they wanted to insure that no other residents in the area contracted the illness.

"Many concerned parents and their children came to the Health Department offices wanting to be treated, but not all those present actually needed the drug. There is no need to be alarmed unless the child or parent has been in very close contact with a sick person," explained Morton.

The disease which forms a germ that affects the oral and nasal passages, is most contagious to younger children and infants. The older the individual, the less his chance of contracting the disease.

Parents with young children should be on the watch for these symptoms — 1) Headache, 2) Nausea or Vomiting, 3) Weakness or Fatigue, 4) Fever, 5) A purplish rash. These symptoms can occur all together at once or just one at a time.

disease is communicable, it can be only spread through contact with an affected individual.

"There can be no third party illness," added Morton. Third party illness means that the disease cannot be carried by a person. A person must be sick

(Continued on Page 3A)

County Democrats Convene April 25

County Democrats will converge on the Madison High School cafeteria Saturday, April 25 to hold their annual Madison County Democratic Convention at which officers will be elected for the County Executive Committee.

Convention activities will get underway at 11 a.m. with a barbeque lunch served by the Democratic Women's Club.

There will be a charge of \$5 per plate for the fund raising lunch.

The business session of the convention will begin at 1 p.m. with the election of county officers and addresses given by Democrat officials.

For further information contact Debbie Ponder Baker at 689-2612 or 629-7386, or call Bill Moore at 629-3386.

Spring Forward

Daylight Savings Time will begin at 2 a.m. Sunday, April 26. Once again it will be time to set your clocks and watches ahead one hour before you go to bed Sunday night.

The hour "lost" with DST Sunday will be regained again next October when time pieces are set back one hour to observe Standard Time.

Remember: Spring forward, Fall back.