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County chooses housing help over water aid

By Ed Miller

Despite the requests from residents for public water lines, members of the Hoke County Commission voted not to change an application for a \$726,000 block grant to upgrade housing in the Tylertown area.

"Water is not a very high priority nationally," Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Government (COG) said in the hearing.

According to Perry, whose organization will make the grant application, housing renovation is very high on the national priority list.

Applications for the North

Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development (NRCD) block grants will be scored higher if national objectives are kept in mind when making the application, said Perry.

Although representatives from fire departments in the Tylertown and Antioch areas asked for water hook-ups for their fire trucks, there were comments made against the proposed application as it stands.

Wilma Monroe, a resident in the Tylertown area asked Perry if other communities had ever been funded for water projects.

Perry's answer was "yes," but

he qualified the answer by saying that those funded projects contained water system renovations as an "element of something else on a bigger scale."

Commissioner Cleo Bratcher suggested that the residents of Tylertown may be able to tap into the water system in the Scurlock-Hillcrest area.

According to Bratcher, the areas are only two or three miles apart if a straight line linked them.

By the time acquisition rights are gotten across all the roads and privately owned fields between the two miles linking the areas, the grant money will be gone, and

there will not have been the first pipe laid, said Perry.

Another fault with that plan might be the target area in the application, said Perry.

Target areas are strictly defined, he said.

To run water from Scurlock to Tylertown would entail including in the target area the two miles of uninhabited land between the two areas, he said.

That would cause the loss of "lots of points," Perry said.

Perry also told the residents at the hearing and the commissioners that one obstacle already working against a Hoke County grant is

that it has never been funded before.

"Hoke County has no track record," Perry said.

"You need a good, solid program" to have a chance of funding, he said.

"The Tylertown application is not a bad application," said Perry.

Perry did not close the door on adding certain public requests to the application.

county's fire districts to five mile limits.

North Raeford, Rockfish, Tylertown and Antioch fire departments have extended their boundaries to touch each other.

Formerly, there were small areas between some of the departmental boundaries where homeowners had no fire protection.

Courthouse grant eyed

In other action, Commissioner James Albert Hunt made a motion giving approval to County Manager William Cowan to make an application for a grant to improve the extension of four of the

Districts remapped

Following another public hearing, the commission voted to approve the extension of four of the

Airport zoning eyed

By Ed Miller

Members of the Raeford-Hoke Airport Commission voted unanimously to appoint a two-man committee to develop a recommendation for zoning around the airport.

Commissioners John Plummer and Carroll Scarborough were appointed to the committee.

As passed in the motion, Scarborough and Plummer must have a recommendation ready for submission by the March meeting.

The Airport Commission has the authority to zone around the public facility, Chairman Frank Baker said.

According to Baker, the special committee will have to touch base with the new Hoke County Planning Board while making plans for the airport area.

Plummer suggested that the Airport Commission, as a body, appear before the Planning Board to share ideas and get ideas about what is wanted by both governing bodies for the area.

"The move is being made mainly for safety sake," Commissioner Plummer said.

"We are probably going to suggest that no more houses be built within one-half mile of the airport," Plummer said.

Of special concern to the commission is the growing population and area of the Tylertown Community, located near the airport.

"Tylertown may get so big that they need a water tower," Plummer said, adding that such a move would be a problem so close the the airport.

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Commissioner L.E. McLaughlin called for some "long range planning" around the facility.

"I can see it coming. If planning is not started now around the airport, it will be too congested to plan around later on," he said.

In other discussion during last Thursday's meeting, commissioners agreed that "T-hangers" could be built at the airport for costs drastically under those asked for by constructors.

Commissioner Wayne Byrd recently attended the North Carolina Airports Conference in Pinehurst and brought back construction figures, material listings, specifications and plans for hangars.

According to Byrd, each hangar will cost \$7,000 if built by one of the companies that issued the information.

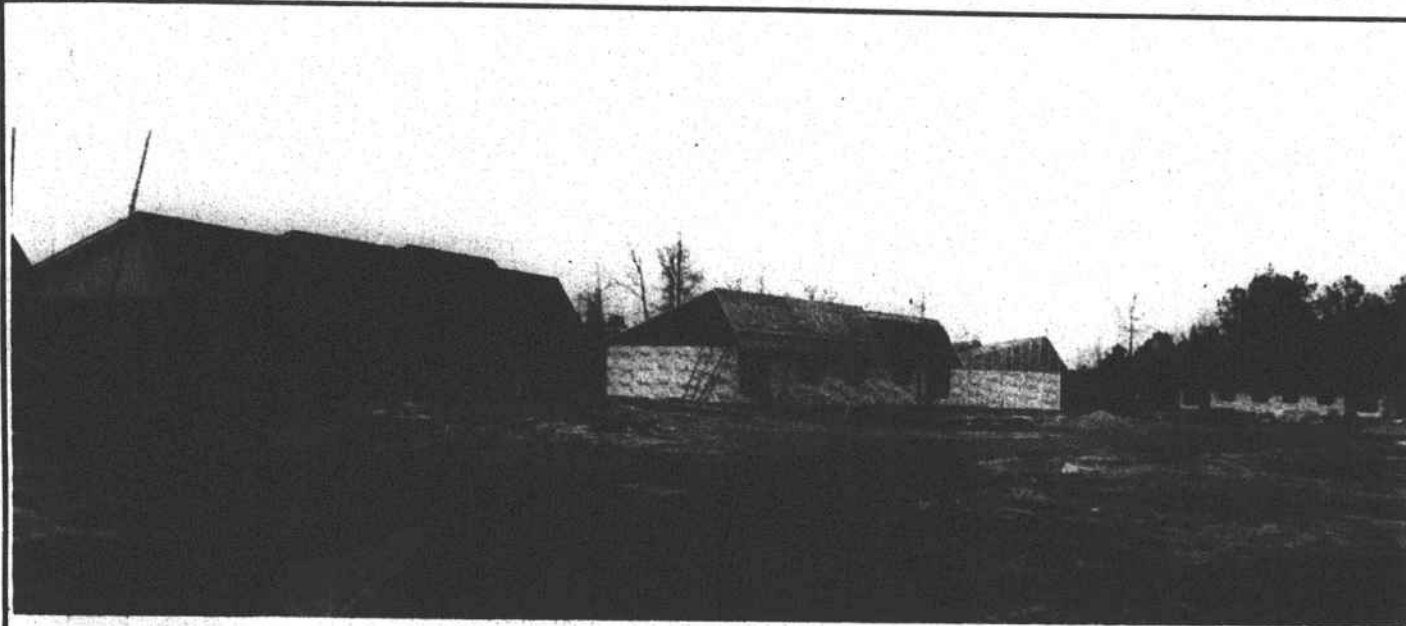
Currently, public hangar space at the airport is non-existent.

As a result of discussions at the state meeting in Pinehurst, Byrd also alerted commissioners of a need for fixed base operators' insurance at the airport.

According to Byrd, the insurance is needed because the Raeford-Hoke Airport sells unleaded auto fuel for airplanes.

There have been cases where impure auto fuel was pumped into

(See AIRPORT, page 11)



Moving along

Slated to be completed between June 1 and June 15, the Lantern Lanes Project, on South Main Street across from Faberge in Raeford will provide housing for middle income families. The 28-unit complex is being built by Freedom Family Homes of Dunn. The project will

cost \$900,000, according to Julian Jessup, Director of Cost and Purchasing for Freedom Family Homes. The project is backed by Farmers Home Administration.

Shannon man charged with cutting incident

A Shannon man was out of jail Monday on \$5,000 bond after being arrested and charged last week with assaulting another man and cutting him three times on the face.

U.T. Locklear, 35, paid his bond last week after being charged with assaulting Robert Hagadorn, also known as Donald Ray, reports from the Hoke County Sheriff's Department say.

According to reports, Hagadorn was brought into the Sheriff's Department on February 11 with a four inch cut on his left cheek, another four inch cut behind his left ear and a third smaller cut above the same ear.

In a statement to deputies, Hagadorn said that he and the estranged wife of Locklear were in his car together when Locklear was allegedly seen following them.

Hagadorn decided to take the woman to her father's house where she would be safe, he said in the statement.

Upon reaching their destination, Hagadorn got out of the car and had a coat thrown over his head while Locklear allegedly slashed away with a pocket knife, according to the statement.

According to a statement from the defendant, he was trying to find his wife to give her money for some kerosene.

He saw Hagadorn and his wife in the car and tried to catch them, he said in the statement.

According to Locklear, he chased the couple at speeds up to 70 miles per hour.

He then rode up beside the other car and attempted to get them to stop.

Hagadorn allegedly tried to run him off the road, Locklear said in the statement.

According to two witnesses who saw the assault, Locklear indeed allegedly threw a coat over Hagadorn's head and cut him.

In another Hoke County inci-

dent, warrants have been sent to Robeson County charging an employee of Lumberton's Freeman Motors with assaulting a woman from this county.

Although sheriff's deputies could not remember the man's name, papers have been signed against him by a local magistrate, deputies said.

Taffy Ann Hardin, the victim in the case, alleged that the man came to her house to see her sister about a car payment, reports say.

Although the man allegedly made sexual advances toward her, no such charges have been brought against the man, deputies said.

The incident happened the day before Valentine's, reports say.

On February 11, a break-in that netted apparent thieves \$1,285 occurred at the residence of Lillian Mulrooney, reports say.

According to the sheriff's report, a neighbor saw a car drop

off three Indian males near the house.

The men allegedly headed through some woods toward Mulrooney's house, reports say.

Included in the personal property taken from the home was a \$500 diamond ring, a \$200 pearl ring, a sword valued at \$150 and a \$300 color television, reports say.

A Fayetteville man is out on bond after being charged in Hoke County with possession with intent to manufacture marijuana.

A car belonging to Ricky Wayne Bunce, 21, was stopped by deputy Clarence Patterson on February 11 after the officer saw the driver to be crossing the road's center line, reports say.

The driver, unnamed in the report, was escorted to the sheriff's car while Patterson searched the vehicle, according to reports.

(See SEED PAN, page 12)

Funeral director's sentence suspended

The owner of a local funeral home, Tony Buie, was given a suspended sentence, placed on unsupervised probation for five years and fined \$500 after being found guilty of three crimes concerning pre-need funeral arrangements, court records say.

According to warrants taken out on the funeral director by Hoke County Sheriff Dave Barrington, Buie failed to submit a \$10 contract fee to the North Carolina Banking Department, failed to deposit \$2,170 in a trust fund as agreed in a contract and used a contract not approved by the North Carolina Banking Department.

All the apparent crimes were committed against Lessie Little, of Raeford, warrants say.

For sentencing, all three charges were consolidated, court records say.

A Shannon man has appealed four sentences that would have

(See TWO, page 12)

Around Town

By Sam Morris

The weather for the past two days, Sunday and Monday, has been perfect for this time of year. The temperatures at night have been in the 30s and the daytime temperatures have been in the mid-50s. It has been fair and feels good after the cold weather of the past six weeks.

The forecast is for the same kind of weather for the remainder of the week with the temperature maybe getting into the 60s on Friday. Now this is the weather for golf. I need it after being off the course for about six weeks.

Something that has bugged me for the past few years is the changing of most holidays to Monday. Monday I went to the post office to get the extra two-cent stamp that is now required to mail a letter. Before getting to the door of

(See AROUND, page 12)



The warning

This goat apparently does not want any visitors. Raring its head back, the animal bleated a warning to stay away. Although the goat was not very friendly, the milk from a goat is very healthy for humans. It is very high in protein and low in cholesterol. It also comes straight from the goat already homogenized.

(Photos by Pam Frederick)



Community focal point

The Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce hopes to restore the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad Depot to the position in the community it had in this 1916 photograph. Restoration committee members are hoping to raise over \$30,000 from local residents, businesses and industries in order to refurbish the depot for the offices of the Chamber and the new economic developer. In the earlier years, the depot was often a focal point for the community gatherings, and if the drive is successful, Chamber members hope that the building will again be a center for activity.

Depot restoration drive hoping to raise \$30,000

A move is underway, by members of the Raeford-Hoke Depot Restoration Fund Committee to raise a needed \$30,000 for renovating the old Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad station.

The committee is under the sponsorship of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce.

When completed the facility will house the offices of the Chamber, as well as those of an economic developer.

Members of the committee hope to arouse public spirit for volunteer labor in the restoration effort.

Thus far, \$1,400 has been raised.

Contributions have been made by Mr. and Mrs. Neill McNeill, Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Archer, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Upchurch Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Conoly, Mr. and Mrs. D.R. Huff Jr., Mr. and Mrs. David Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Crawford L. Thomas Jr. and the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce.