

STATE APPROVAL ANTICIPATED

# College Trustees Appoint Reaves To President's Post

BY DOUG RUTTER

Next month the State Board of Community Colleges is expected to approve the appointment of William Michael Reaves as president of Brunswick Community College.

Following a 30-minute executive session last Wednesday, college trustees voted unanimously to appoint Reaves permanent president, subject to state board approval.

Reaves, who was appointed interim president in August, came to the college one week after trustees fired the institution's founding president, Dr. Joseph Carter. The dismissal came in the midst of an SBI investigation which led to the indictment of one instructor on charges of fraud and a state audit which disclosed problems in the continuing education program.



Reaves

The state board is expected to approve the appointment at its June 9 meeting in Raleigh. Local trustees will ask the appointment be effective retroactively to May 12.

Reaves, 39, who had been earning \$47,184 per year as interim president, will receive an annual salary of \$49,392 from the state and a county supplement of about \$9,000. The state salary was determined according to a sliding pay scale.

"I want you to know this is probably the happiest time of my life," said Reaves in addressing the board last week. "I think I'm probably the luckiest person in the world."

He said later that his major goals at BCC are to continue campus expansion, review and possibly reorganize the structure of the college and add more curriculum programs to better meet community needs.

The appointment of a permanent president ended an eight-month search, spearheaded by a committee that worked closely with state Department of Community College officials throughout the period.

Although the state board was expected to act Wednesday on a proposal which would amend the manner in which college presidents are selected, a state community college official who worked with the local search committee said last week the state board will almost certainly not require the college to make any changes in its selection.

"The board would not change the rules on them at this stage," said Helen Dowdy, assistant to the president for state board affairs. "They would grandfather them in under the old system."

During the April 23 trustees meeting, the search committee recommended two finalists who were later interviewed behind closed doors by the full board of trustees.

On May 4, trustees met with one of

the finalists for about two hours. Another closed meeting and interview session was held May 10, with that one lasting nearly 3½ hours.

Trustees Chairman David Kelly, who said all applicants were promised confidentiality, would not release the name of the other finalist. He did say, however, that the person occupied a "high administrative" post at a community college outside the state.

The search committee, which began with about 80 applicants, announced in March that it had narrowed the field to seven.

Mrs. Dowdy added that she worked with the local search committee "every step of the way," initially outlining desires of the state board and making suggestions about how the search should be conducted.

Department of Community Colleges President Bob Scott, she continued, approved the names of all four applicants sent to the state, including the two finalists, prior to the search committee's final recommendation.

According to procedures currently followed in the selection of a new president, the local board of trustees recommends one person for approval by the State Board of Community Colleges.

Under the proposed policy, however, the search committee would be required to send resumes of all finalists to the state board for review. The state board would then return the resumes with any comments and recommended pay scales for each applicant.

This proposal, developed jointly by a state board committee and the N.C. Association of Community College Trustees, also requires the local search committee to seek the advice of state community college officials when establishing requirements and criteria for applicants.

According to Mrs. Dowdy, "If the policy were put into effect, even

though (BCC) will probably be grandfathered in, they've probably already done everything that would be required of them."

Trustees Chairman Kelly, who had said earlier that he believed the state board would accept the procedure followed by the local search committee, stated last week, "I still don't find any reason not to be confident."

According to Lewis Stanley, vice chairman of the board of trustees, Reaves is not currently working under a contract. He added, however, that trustees may work out a contract with the president once the state board takes action on its selection policy.

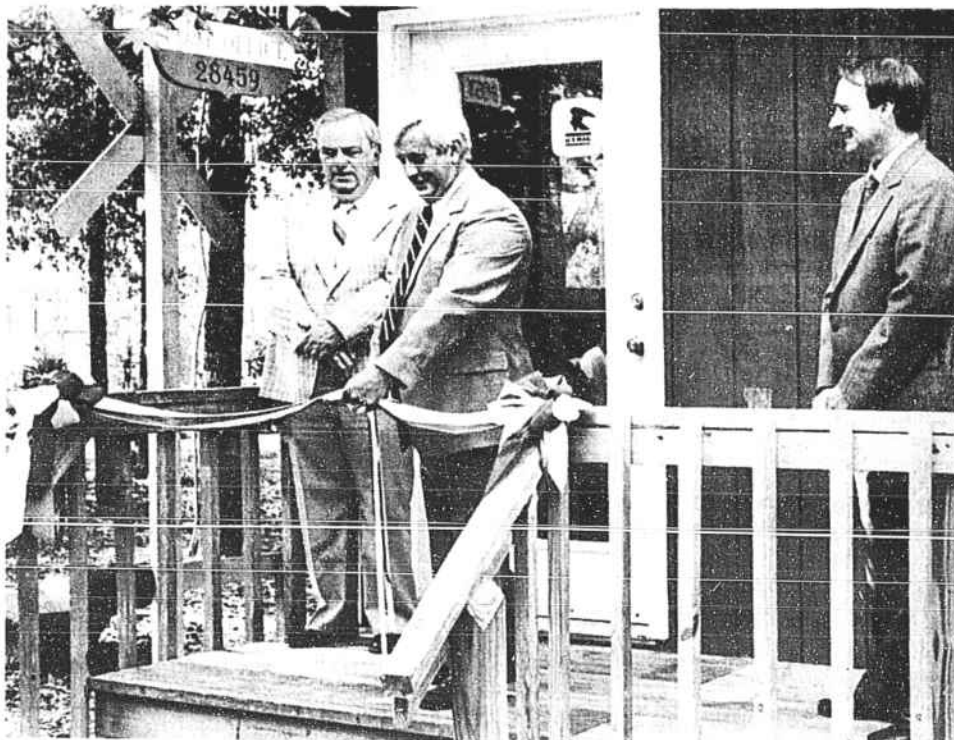
"Right now, it's still up in the air," said Stanley. "A decision really hasn't been made yet."

Mark Van Sciver, spokesman for the state Department of Community Colleges, said the decision to give presidents a contract is entirely up to the local board of trustees. The proposal to change the selection process, he added, does not deal with contracts at all.

In addition to Kelly Holden, who served as chairman, members of the search committee were trustees Cora Green, James Rabon, Charles Lanier and Clarkie Munn. Business instructor Robert Hill represented the faculty on the committee, while Small Business Center Director Velva Hall represented staff.

Prior to coming to BCC, Reaves was dean of continuing education at Sampson Technical College for 14 years. He is currently working toward a doctorate in adult and community college administration at N.C. State University and said he expects to receive that degree before the end of the year.

Reaves, who said last week becoming a college president was his lifelong goal, currently lives at Caswell Beach. He said his wife and two daughters will be moving to the area from Salemburg shortly after school lets out in June.



CALABASH MAYOR DOUGLAS SIMMONS (center) cuts the ribbon Friday for the new Calabash Post Office, located immediately behind its former location in the Christmas Shop/Dollhouse complex on N.C. 179. Also pictured are complex owner Allen May (left) and Shallotte Postmaster Frank Patton.

## Calabash Post Office Expands Service At A New Location

BY RAHN ADAMS

At a time when postal customers expect only cutbacks and rate increases, Calabash area residents are enjoying expanded service at the town's contract post office.

On May 9, the Calabash Post Office moved into a larger building all its own at the Christmas Shop/Dollhouse complex on N.C. 179, where it has been located since 1981. The complex is owned by Allen and Peggy May, who hold the postal contract.

According to the Mays, the move was made due to the "expanded and fast growth of the Calabash area."

Not only has the unit more than doubled its number of postal boxes to 604, the post office building is now open 24 hours a day for boxholders.

Prior to the move, boxholders could pick up mail only during the business hours of the craft shop that housed the post office.

Counter services, which are conducted in a separate section of the building, are still available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. The postal unit offers all services except street delivery.

Calabash Mayor Douglas Simmons and Shallotte Postmaster Frank Patton participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday.

"It's nice to have something like this coming into Calabash," Simmons said. "We're really growing."

Patton noted that the larger building will benefit the postal service and the community. "They

generate pretty much revenue," the postmaster said. "It helps not only the permanent residents but also helps tourists to purchase postal services without driving too far."

According to Mrs. May, who runs the post office along with Homer Andrews, retired Shallotte postmaster, about 300 postal boxes were available as of Friday. The old building's 290 combination-lock boxes were all either rented or broken. The new boxes are all key operated.

Outbound mail is picked up twice daily on weekdays and once on Saturday, and is transported directly to the regional distribution center in Fayetteville. Outbound mail taken over the counter is hand-canceled with a Calabash postmark. Inbound mail arrives daily.

### Town Creek VRS To Serve Plates

Town Creek Volunteer Rescue Squad will serve fried chicken and barbecued pork dinners Saturday, May 21, starting at 11 a.m. at the squad building on U.S. 17 at Winabow.

Potato salad, green beans and rolls

will accompany the chicken, while the pork will be served with candied yams, cole slaw and hushpuppies.

Cost is \$3.50 per plate, with all proceeds going to support the squad.

A bake sale is also planned, said Laura Coulter, secretary.

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