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County To Clarify Water System Rules

The Pamlico County Board of Commissioners are going to have to clarify the water system rules and regulations with regard to subdivisions and the county running water lines therein.

At Monday night's commissioners' meeting, several individuals interested in obtaining county water in the Teach's Cove Subdivision near Oriental asked the board why the area was not considered when some property owners paid a deposit for water.

Water superintendent Grady Tucker told the board that there had been 9 sign-ups in the subdivision and 5 others on the neighboring state road.

Jim Gatlin, home owner in the subdivision, told the board that the property owners in the subdivision were not aware of the fact that they would not get water in Phase I. He said that the owners felt the hold up was the construction ongoing along the Kershaw Road.

Dr. Richard Hudson, owner of the subdivision, asked the board what criteria were used for determining who received water. Board chairman Robert Paul replied that a density factor was involved but added that the county engineers, Rivers and Associates, determined the priority system with some consideration to cost per user. Paul said that he was not aware that this area was not going to be served in Phase I.

Said superintendent Tucker, "This is or might have been considered (by the engineers) an undeveloped subdivision in that everything was not sold in it." Tucker told the individuals that according to the county water system rules and regulations, "The county is not going into it to run lines."

Actually, the county water system rules and regulations state that in order to serve "undeveloped subdivisions", the developer, at his cost, will run lines according to the county engineers and State Board of Health specifications. The rules and regulations also state that, "The County will not reimburse the developer for the extension." The question facing the commissioners is what is an "undeveloped subdivision."

Jim Hudson, landowner in Teach's Cove, told the board of a number of subdivisions in which water had been run or was on the current extension list to be run in Phase I. Hudson included Windmill Point in Vandemere, Pinedale in Reelsboro, Paradise Shores in Whortonsville, and Otis Jones Subdivision near Oriental. Tucker told Hudson that evidently, the engineers were under the impression that the subdivisions were sold out. "It was done before I even came down," said Tucker.

Said Dr. Hudson, "If they (the property owners) want it (water), they should be entitled to it; they shouldn't be discriminated against."

Jim Hudson asked the board to approve a resolution stating that the subdivision would receive water at least during Phase II. Chairman Paul stated that possibly a meeting with the engineers was needed in order to determine what steps led to the decision making.

Bill Rice, County Manager, told the individuals present that there may be some money remaining in Phase I after the current extensions are completed. Jim Hudson asked

the board if there was enough remaining money from Phase I, was there any reason why the people of the subdivision could not be served. Replied Paul, "Not that I can see."

The board took no official action on the request but said that a meeting would be set up to include the engineers so that some of the questions regarding priority could be considered.

Snowden Principal Resigns

S. W. Snowden principal Robert Wood's resignation was accepted Tuesday night at the February 10 meeting of the Beaufort County Board of Education. Mr. Wood's resignation was effective Friday, February 13. Mr. Gray Hodges, superintendent of the county system, said that Mr. Wood's letter of resignation stated that he was resigning because of "personal reasons." Mr. Wood had been principal of Snowden Elementary in Aurora for about 3 1/2 years.

The board approved Mr. Robert Sayce, a former principal at John A. Wilkinson High School in Belhaven, as the interim principal to continue at least for the rest of the school year. Mr. Sayce is presently teaching in South Carolina and his acceptance is contingent upon receiving release from that position.

Mrs. Ethel Matthews, General Supervisor for the Beaufort County Schools, presented the board with the results of the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test taken by grades 3, 6, and 9 in December 1980. She continued by saying that about 99 facets of intelligence had been recognized at the present time and that the best "IQ" test only measured 11 or 12.

The scores, she said, are about the same as they were last year.

The scores will be used to assist in determining whether or not a child may be gifted or have problems. It will also be useful, continued Mrs. Matthews, in determining whether or not a child is performing at his highest level. For instance, a child may not be doing well in school but may have a relatively high test score.

Mrs. Matthews told the board that the accreditation team from the Southern Association had made their first visit to the Pinetown and Belhaven schools. The team will visit Snowden School in Aurora on April 9 and 10 and will visit Beaufort County Elementary School on May 19 and 20. "Both of the schools are ready for the visit," she opined.

TRANSFER POLICY
Following several problems which have become apparent through the institutions of the "Policy With Respect To Students Transfers" adopted at the October 14, 1980 meeting of the board, the members decided to take another look at and amend the policy if necessary.

After some discussion, the board decided to drop the section that stated that the child of a teacher could, with board approval, attend the school at which the parent taught if outside the established district.

Jimmy Raper said that he felt that it may be difficult for the principal to handle a parent-employee relationship.

Said Billy Jefferson, chairman of the school board, "I just looked at it like a little fringe benefit." The board made one other change regarding the wor-

ding of a section but decided that the rest of the policy was acceptable as stated. The policy will be amended as necessary.

KOREAN TOUR

Jack Wallace, principal at Bath High School, was present to ask the board's approval for him to make an educational tour of Korea. Mr. Wallace said that he "had earned this trip" referring to the time he was fighting in the Korean War. He said that he learned that the Korean government was offering an educational tour for servicemen now in the field of education who were in the conflict. Mr. Wallace told the board that he will be making the tour with another educator from the U.S. and will be touring the primary and secondary schools looking mainly at the reading and math programs. All expenses will be paid by the Korean Government.

The board approved Mr. Wallace taking the tour which will last from March 23 to March 31.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Mr. Clifton Toler, Assistant Superintendent, was present to update the board on the county school system's attempt to qualify for an energy control grant. The schools have already completed the first phase, which was an energy audit and computed how much energy was used in each school. The second phase involves having an engineer, who is certified by the state, make the recommendations for energy conservation measures.

Mr. Toler explained that the federal government would pay at least 50 percent of the costs of the conservation measures.

The engineer is paid 10 cents per square foot, continued Toler, and the county school system's share, should all the eligible schools be approved, would be about \$8,000 with the federal government paying the other \$8,000. Only those schools not in flood zones are eligible. Three of the county's schools, Pantego, Belhaven and Aurora High School, are in designated flood zones.

Improvements could save 10-20 percent of the \$300,000 per year currently spent for energy.

NO DECISION YET ON BOND ISSUE

Roger Brinn was again present at the board meeting to speak for the bond referendum. Said Brinn, "I think we need to have a bond referendum one way or another...Am I right, or wrong, or don't we need some money from someplace?" Continued Brinn, "The longer we procrastinate, the harder it's going to get."

Chairman Jefferson told Brinn that the board had not yet taken any action but that "we're probably closer to making a decision." Although, commented Jefferson, the board was not

prepared to make any decisions that night. "It is a difficult decision to make," said Jefferson.

OTHER BUSINESS

In other business, the board:

—approved two student transfers;
—in executive session, discussed personnel and accepted several

resignations and elected personnel to fill the vacant positions.



The Pamlico County 4-Hers competed in the Favorite Foods Show at the Courthouse in Bayboro on Saturday, February 14. The winners are (left to right): Tina Winstead, Linda Gaskins, Alisa Lee, Victoria Spain, Kim Alcock and Kathy Truitt.

CJPCAA May Start Soon

The Craven-Jones-Pamlico Community Action Agency will hopefully be getting off the ground in the near future.

At the February 10 meeting of the CJPCAA (Craven-Jones-Pamlico Community Action Agency) Interim Board of Directors, the map delineating elections districts for the poor was approved. The board also asked Bill Rice, Pamlico County Manager, to travel to Atlanta and hand deliver the map to CSA officials, in order to insure that nothing else was needed before the elections for the poor are held.

After the elections of the poor sector, to make up the remainder of the CJPCAA board, the board can begin searching for an executive director for the agency.

Commissioners Want School Board Members Elected By Townships

At Monday night's Pamlico commissioners' meeting, the board approved a letter to be sent to the county board of education requesting support for proposed legislation enabling school board members to be elected by townships. This is the same manner by which county commissioners are elected.

The letter to the school board stated, "The Board of County Commissioners is concerned that the changing demographics of Pamlico County are creating a concentration of members of the Board of Education which could eventually end up with all members elected living in one area of Pamlico County."

Last year, the commissioners had discussed proposing this change, to affect only Pamlico County, to the legislature last year but decided to wait until the long session.

The legislation, if passed, would not affect the terms of the members serving on the board at that time.

**Hurricane Booster Club Meets
Thursday, February 19, 7:30
in Pamlico County Library
Auditorium in Bayboro.**

60 or Older

Nutrition Center Meals Are Free

Nutrition Centers for those 60 years of age and older have been set up in Mesic for some time now through Tri-County and just recently in Aurora at the Community Center through the Beaufort County Council on Aging.

Meals are catered for the Mesic site but those for the Aurora program are cooked on the premises in the Community Center's new kitchen.

The Mesic site can handle 50 meals per day and Aurora has room for 27. Meals are served on a first-come, first-served basis. The purpose of the meals part of the program is to provide a senior citizen, who may not be physically or financially able to do so himself, with a balanced meal. There is no cost to the participant.

Funds are provided by the state and county, 90 percent state - 10 percent county. The total grant for the Mesic site is \$28,106 and \$7,711 for the Aurora site (for Aurora this is from February 2 to September 30). As provided for through the federal Older Americans Act, there is no income requirement - anyone 60 and older can eat free at the center regardless of income.

Besides the meals, the centers also provide a time

for socialization. The Aurora program runs from 10-2 every week day.

No meals can be taken from the nutrition site, therefore to be able to participate in the program, the person must be able to get to the site. There are no Meals-On-Wheels for either Pamlico

County or the Aurora area. However, Selma Chadwick with Tri-County said that her agency is attempting to set up such a program in Pamlico County but does not know yet when that will come to be. Philip Keel, director of the Beaufort County Council On Aging, said that there is a

home-delivery meals program in Washington but does not anticipate one for the Aurora area in the near future.

Out of the approximately 7,000 senior citizens in Beaufort County, a total of 127 can be fed daily through the 4 nutrition sites.



Members of Lions Clubs from 3 counties (Pamlico, Craven & Carteret) met Monday, February 9th with Minnesott Beach Lions in Minnesott Beach to install new members.

Remembering Reelsboro

by Sallie Winfrey

(Editor's Note: Have you ever wondered how some of the communities in Pamlico County came to be? What made a community spring up in one place as opposed to another? Well, The Pamlico News is attempting to answer some of these questions by talking with residents of the community who have been told the history of their areas or researched it or lived it. This will be a continuing series.)

The first interview was with Mildred Buck who was born and raised in Reelsboro and has lived most of her life there.

Reelsboro, she said, is usually defined as being the area from the present-day Strickland's Grill on Highway 55 to Goose Creek.

In the late 1800's, John Benton Reel built a home and a large merchandise store about one mile from the Y-intersection where Strickland's Grill is today. Eventually a saw mill, a grist mill, a cotton mill, and a blacksmith shop were added. The area became known as Reel's Crossroads, Reel's Corner or Reel's Store.

In 1892, the post office opened for the community and was housed in a room built onto Reel's store for that purpose. The community had to have a name. John Reel decided to name it Reelsboro in honor of his family. John Reel was also the first postmaster.

In later years, Baxter Feraby bought the Reel businesses and Tingle and Rawls acquired them after Feraby.

In 1920, Ford Reel, Mildred Buck's father, brought the businesses back into the family. He ran the store during the Depression but like so many businesses at that time, eventually had to close. The store gradually decayed and the mill operations ceased.

In 1947, Mildred Buck acquired the properties from her

father and still has the farm and the family house which is now close to 100 years old.

(Cont'd on Page Six)



Mildred Buck