

Mayors Going Full Speed Ahead On Water Project

The mayors of Earl, Cherryville, Grover, and Patterson Springs met with Kings Mountain Mayor John Henry Moss and voted to proceed as quickly as possible with a proposed metropolitan utility district, which in four years, could supply water to more than 6,500 county residents.

A second meeting is underway today at noon at KM City Hall and the interested public is invited, along with Mayor Moss, Earl Mayor Arrie Ellis, Cherryville Mayor J. Ralph Beam, Grover Mayor Bill McCarter, and Bessemer City Mayor Richard Lackey. At last week's meeting Bessemer City Mayor Lackey was unable to attend but Number 3 Ruritan Club was represented by Maynard Ledford of Bessemer City.

On July 30, Moss announced plans for the \$25.8 million project, a 100 mile utility district including Grover, Patterson Springs, Earl, all in Cleveland County, and Gaston County towns of Bessemer City and Cherryville. Bessemer City and Grover are already purchasing water from Kings Mountain.

Moss also unveiled several weeks ago plans for a second lake to be constructed as a water source for the new district and submitted a \$6 million preliminary application to the Farmers Home Administration in Hickory for the first phase of the project's three phases.

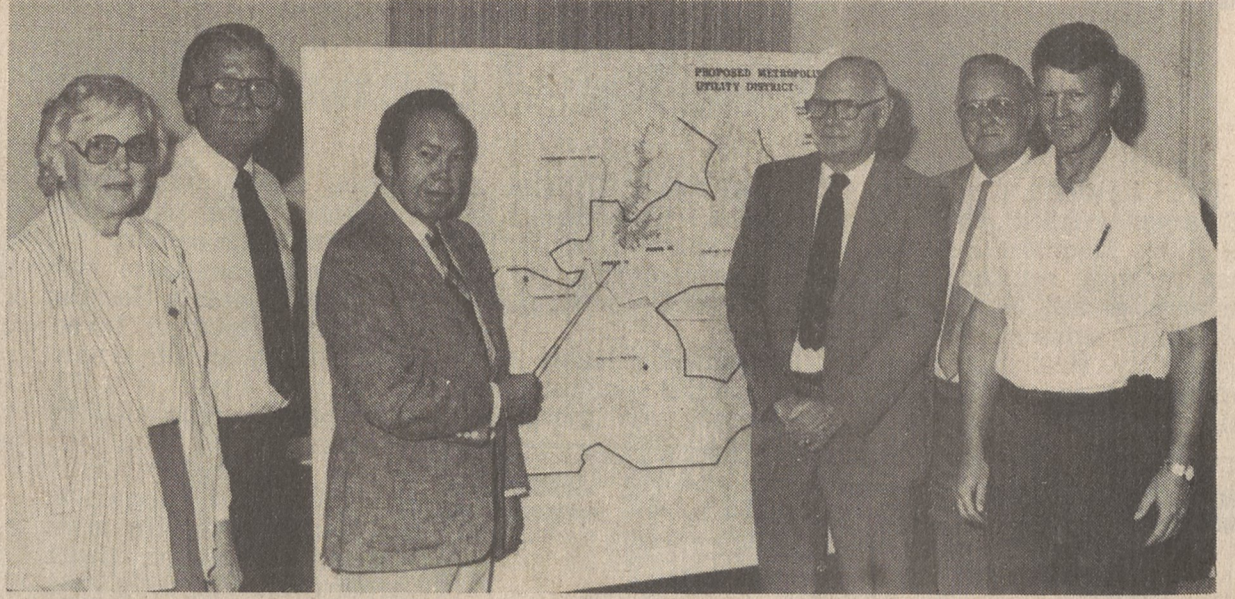
Moss said the group of mayors represents the tentative executive board of directors. Mayor Moss said plans are to begin circulating a letter of interest to all county residents within the proposed district by the end of next week. The letter will have separate boxes to check indicating a resident's desire to have water or sewer lines extended to his home.

Moss said other action of the mayors included redrawing of the district's proposed boundaries to extend north toward the Cherryville town limits and to include most of No. 3 Township in Cleveland County and submission of an amended preliminary application to FmHA to ensure the areas of the county near Patterson Springs and Earl be included in the first phase of the project. The group also

made plans to petition Cleveland and Gaston boards of commissioners for approval of the proposed boundaries.

Mayor Moss said the group today will work toward finalizing the district's governing board by the end of August for submission of preliminary engineering report to FmHA by Oct. 1.

Mayors at the meeting said their communities support 100 percent the project. "We can live without a lot of things but water is not one of them", said Patterson Springs Mayor Dillingham.



MAYORS GET-TO-GETHER—Mayors of surrounding communities, above, met Wednesday for the first of many meetings scheduled to discuss water needs and to move as quickly as possible on a proposed metropolitan utility district. From left, Earl Mayor Arrie Ellis, Cherryville Mayor J. Ralph Beam, Kings Mountain Mayor John Henry Moss, Grover Mayor Bill McCarter, Patterson Springs Mayor H.J. Dillingham and Maynard Ledford, representing No. 3 Ruritan Club. Absent was Bessemer City Mayor Richard Lackey.

Law Suits Filed

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plaintiff with dishonest conduct, charged plaintiff with fraudulent and unethical practices and charged plaintiff with negligence and carelessness" in the performance of his official duties. The suit contends that the investigative committee "failed to thoroughly investigate the truth of the facts published" concerning Jenkins and therefore published untruths negligently. The suit argues that the city and city officials by purchasing liability insurance waived their right to claim immunity from civil liability and seeks damages of \$750,000.

The suit also contends that reports were given to members of the press and television media with the intention and knowledge that they would be published by the press and television media to the community at large. The suit says excerpts were reported by the Kings Mountain Herald, Shelby Daily Star, and WBTV Channel 3.

The second claim for relief contends that "Jenkins' privacy was violated by circulation and publication of the committee's report, which by law should have been kept in Jenkins personnel folder for release only by his permission" and seeks damages of \$600,000.

The third claim for relief contends that Jenkins was "publicly humiliated and falsely accused and these acts of defamation concurrent with and related to the termination of the plaintiffs' employment gives Jenkins the right to the opportunity to be heard in a meaningful time, place and manner as to the circumstances of his dismissal" and asks \$550,000 because of "physical illness, great emotional distress and mental humiliation" he suffered.

The fourth claim for relief contends that Commissioner Irvin Allen, Jr. "maliciously damaged Jenkins' reputation in statements to the press with the knowledge they would be published by the press and television news media to the community at large" and seeks damages of \$750,000.

In another claim, the suit contends that the defendants "breached the employment agreement by dismissing Jenkins in bad faith and by violations of the provisions of the city's personnel policy" and seeks \$150,000 in damages.

In the seventh claim, the suit contends that "conduct of the city officials was outrageous and done as a preconceived plan and with the malicious intent to cause plaintiff severe mental and emotional pain and distress, and seeks \$400,000 in damages.

"We have filed this suit after much thought and a great deal of research and feel that Mr. Jenkins will be vindicated by a jury" said his attorney.

Mayor Moss said that defendants in the action have been served with the complaint and that City Attorney George Thomasson will file the city's answer to the complaint.



BETTER SAFE...

By RUBY M. ALEXANDER

Would you put your address and phone number in the newspaper and invite absolute strangers to come over and go through your closets? That's what you do when you advertise your own home for sale. There's no buffer between you and the "visitor," who may be a bona fide prospect -- or may not.

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Hords Entertain Couple

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hord of Kings Mountain entertained Friday evening at Western Sizzlin Steak House in Shelby at an after-rehearsal dinner for their son, Rick Hord and his bride-to-be, Margery Lee Phipps.

A color motif of blue and white was featured in decorative details in the private dining hall. The refreshment table was covered with a blue cloth overlaid with white and tied up at the corners with ribbons and bells. The bridegroom's cake was served with punch, mints, nuts, and white wedding bell cookies after a dinner of steak with all the trimmings.

Miss Phipps was presented a corsage of daisies to pin to the shoulder of her floral party dress.

Miss Phipps and Mr. Hord were married Saturday in Patterson Grove Baptist Church.

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