

M I N U T E S

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 1, 1977

The meeting of the Oconee County Council was opened by Chairman Phinney with Invocation by Rev. Donald Duncan. Members present: Lamar Bailes, Norman Crain, Buddy Herring, W. H. Frady, Harold Thomas and Hugh Ables. Councilmen absent were Cox and Moore.

Mr. Thomas moved, Mr. Bailes seconded and it was carried, to approve minutes of the January 18th meeting as printed.

It was moved by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr. Thomas and un-  
animously carried, to adopt Ordinance #77-1 on third reading.

Personnel Director, Roy Strickland, presented the proposed County Personnel Policy; after it was discussed by Council Members, Councilman Bailes moved to adopt the policy as presented. Mr. Thomas seconded and it was up then for discussion. Amend-  
ments were offered as follows:

1. To allow accumulation of a maximum of 60 days sick leave -  
this motion by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr. Herring. The  
votes - all in favor.
2. Amend vacation days to the following:
  - 1 week after 1 year service
  - 2 weeks from 2 to 5 years service
  - 11 days after 6 years service
  - 12 days after 8 years service
  - 13 days after 10 years service
  - 15 days after 14 years to 20 years
  - 20 days after 20 years service

This motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Herring and  
all votes favorable.

3. Amend to state there would be no carry over from one work  
year to the next on vacation days - this motion by Mr.  
Ables, seconded by Mr. Frady and all votes in favor.
4. Amend to state vacation and sick leave be based on employment  
year rather than fiscal or calendar years. This motion  
by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr. Ables - the vote all in favor.
5. Amend to state the rate for travel allowance is .14 per mile  
instead of .15. This motion by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr.  
Herring and the votes were favorable.

6. Amend the Nepotism Section to include neices and nephews. This motion by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr. Herring and all votes for.
7. Amend Nepotism Section to state that the Department Head and immediate supervisor cannot employ relatives. This motion by Mr. Ables, seconded by Mr. Herring and all votes in favor.
8. Amend Conflict of Interest Section to state that no employee can engage in any type of campaigning while on duty, in uniform, or in a County vehicle. This motion by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr. Herring and all voted in favor.

Council agreed that the policy clearly states in the Educational Leave Section that all such leave be approved by the Personnel Director and County Council before enrolling in school. The vote on the adoption of the Personnel Policy, as amended, was unanimously in favor.

Mr. Frady reported that the low bidder (two bids were received) for six cars for the Sheriff's Department was Auto Sales Co., Walhalla, S. C. and would be delivered in eight to 12 weeks at an approximated cost of \$31,000.00.

Mr. Ables entered a motion for reconsideration of the motion passed at the January 18th meeting regarding work on private driveways and to support Legislation which has been introduced to hold a referendum which, if passed, would change the Constitution to make such work legal. Mr. Thomas seconded - all votes were in favor. Mr. Ables then requested that he and Mr. Moore be removed from the Committee to look into the possibility of a "friendly lawsuit". It was pointed out that the County has \$5,000.00 in the budget for emergency situations to aid indigent persons.

Mr. Thomas moved to grant Dr. Darby's request to request Blue Cross and Blue Shield Ins. Co. to back date his hospital insurance to August 1, 1976. Mr. Herring seconded the motion and after the matter was discussed, it did not pass. The vote was two for (Thomas and Herring) and four against (Ables, Frady, Crain and Bailes).

The bill from McKee Plumbing for work at the Jail site was again discussed and so far Mr. McKee has not responded to the request by the County Attorney to submit a breakdown of the bill. Council agreed for Mr. Phinney along with Councilmen Moore, Thomas, Bailes, and Herring to meet with Mr. McKee and see if the problem can be resolved and report back to Council.

Mr. Phinney reported that the platform for the new Council desks were completed and ready for installation.

Councilman Frady compared food cost for the County Work Camp, Jail, Lakeview Rest Home and Children's Home. This was discussed with no action recommended or taken.

Mr. Ables reported that three studies can be funded by COG with 75% federal funds and 25% local. The programs are a Construction Code, Mobile Home Ordinance and Sanitation Control Ordinance. The cost would be approximately \$2,500.00 and Mr. Ables stated that action should be taken now on this so that COG could include it in their budget. Mr. Bailes moved to approve this, Mr. Thomas seconded and it was passed.

Mr. Ables announced that within two months action would be taken on the Middle School.

Mr. Ables reported that he had checked on the situation at Morningside Heights where citizens were concerned with the J. P. Stevens landfill operation and reported that the Stevens Company stated the Company is maintaining this in compliance with the law.

Mr. Bailes moved to endorse the Appalachian Council of Government's action to assess the County at a ratio of .35 per capita based on the 1973 census. Mr. Thomas seconded and it was carried.

Mr. Lay spoke briefly on changes in the Revenue Sharing rules and regulations effective January 1, 1977. He also announced that Mr. Bo Shetterly of the Association of Counties would hold a two hour work session in the Council Chambers March 9th at 11 a.m. to assist County Council and County offices in any problems they might have concerning the Home Rule Act.

It was announced that the County surplus auction would be held Saturday, February 5th at 11 a.m. at the Work Camp.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.