

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Oconee County Council was held Tuesday, March 17, 1987 at 3:00 PM in Council Chambers with all Council Members and the County Attorney present.

Members of the press notified (by mail): Seneca Journal, Keowee Courier, Greenville News, Anderson Independent, The Oconee Leader, WGOG Radio, WCCP Radio, WSNW Radio, WYFF TV & WLOS TV.

Press

Members of the press present: Sue Nolan - Seneca Journal, Dave Partenheimer - WSNW Radio, Dick Mangrum - WGOG Radio, Dave Cross - The Oconee Leader, Tom Colones - WSPA TV and Betty Bailey & Reuben Mayfield - WLOS TV.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor-Chairman Crain who welcomed the guests and media.

The invocation was given by Dr. Earle.

Invocation

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that the minutes of the March 3, 1987 meeting be adopted as printed.

Minutes

First on the agenda Mr. Henry A. Cater, Oconee County Treasurer, resigned as treasurer effective March 31, 1987.

Resignation of
Mr. Cater

Dr. Earle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Butts, approved 5 - 0 that Resolution 87-3, "A Resolution of Appreciation to Mr. Cater For His Years of Service to Oconee County" be adopted on first and final reading.

Res. 87-3

At the request of Mr. Cater, Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that up to \$2,300 be taken from contingency to conduct an audit of the Treasurer's Office.

Contingency

Next Council held a public hearing to receive written and/or oral comments concerning low level radionuclide materials being stored at the Coneross treatment facility.

Duke Public

Mr. Mike Tuckman, Manager of the Oconee Nuclear Facility addressed Council concerning this matter. Mr. Tuckman stated there were three areas he wished to address: (1) background, (2) waste stream, (3) what is radio activity:

The plant has been in operation for fourteen years, it has a good safety record, it generates more electricity than any other plant its size in the USA and two-thirds of its employees are Oconee County residents.

Mr. Tuckman also stated that the waste he was talking about received no chemical waste, no oil waste and no metal waste. It is basically the same as what is in a septic tank.

There are small amounts of radio activity in the sludge.

Mr. Tuckman indicated that we receive more harmful amounts of radio activity from the sun, well water and bricks in our homes that we would from this sludge. He said there was no hazard related to this material and it could have been sent to the treatment facility without notifying the county.

Mr. Tuckman also indicated there would have been some radio activity in the sludge even without the spill.

Mr. Glenn Moore said he was against Oconee County accepting the sludge at the Coneross treatment facility.

Mr. Mark Miller asked where the sludge would be disposed of in three years. Mr. Tuckman said it probably would not be considered radio active in three years.

After considerable discussion Mr. Crain stated that he, Mr. Bob Winchester, Sewer Commission Director, and Mr. Walt Purcell, Emergency Preparedness Director, met with a representative from the Division of Radio Active Material, DHEC & NRC Friday, March 13, 1987, each of these representatives assured them that this sludge is harmless. However, he was concerned about some of the wording in the original contract. He is especially concerned about the wording that would cause Oconee County to be liable for any long term damages that may occur from this sludge.

Mr. Bob Simril of Duke Power stated that the word "superfund" indicated that Oconee County would meet all federal standards required in disposing of such waste.

After discussion Mr. Brandt, County Attorney, stated that the sewer commission would comply with all federal, state and local laws and requested that the following statement be deleted from the agreement: "and that its operation of the facility will treat the material so that a violation of its NPDES permit, pretreatment standards and superfund will not occur."

Mr. Alton Williams stated that he was against Oconee County accepting this sludge because he thought we should keep Oconee County a clean and safe place to live.

Mr. Crain referred this matter to the Public Safety, Health, Welfare & Services Committee.

Dr. Earle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Butts, approved 5 - 0 that \$243.15 be taken from contingency to purchase a desk for the Tax Collector's Office.

Contingency

Dr. Earle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, approved 5 - 0 that the bond in the amount of \$10,000 be approved for the Superintendent of Education.

Superintendent
of Education
Bond

Mr. Butts made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that Resolution 87-4, "A Resolution Designating the Council on Aging as an Entity to Transport the Handicapped and/or Elderly in Oconee County" be adopted on first and final reading.

Res. 87-4

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that Ordinance 87-2, "An Ordinance to Restrict the Use of Real Property Owned by Oconee County, South Carolina Commonly Known as "The Poor Farm" by Making a Portion Thereof a Waterfowl Sanctuary Where Hunting of any kind is Absolutely Prohibited and Making the Discharge of Rifles on the Whole of the Property Unlawful and to Provide Penalties for Anyone Found Violating the Provisions Hereof" be adopted on third and final reading as is.

Ord. 87-2

Mr. Butts made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that Ordinance 87-3, "An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 75-5 and Abolishing Oconee County Mental Retardation Board (Creation of) Duties & Responsibilities" be adopted on second reading.

Ord. 87-3

Mr. Butts made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that Ordinance 87-5, "1987-88 Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance" be adopted on first reading in title only.

Ord. 87-5

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that a private vendor with an "A" rating be used for the Hobie Fleet Event, April 10-12, 1987 with Oconee County PRT receiving 1% of the gross receipts.

Hobie Fleet

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that the Assessor's Office be allowed to hire a JTPA Worker to help them catch up with their filing and other routine office duties.

JTPA

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that bids be put out for a portable building to be used for temporary office space.

Portable
Office Buildir

Mr. Butts made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that \$300 be taken from contingency and placed in line item number 10 007 00150 00762 to be used by the South Carolina Highway Patrol to test blood when someone is arrested for driving under the influence.

Contingency

The Public Safety, Health, Welfare & Services Committee set a meeting for April 7, 1987 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers to discuss the Duke Power proposal.

Committee
Meets

The Budget & Finance Committee set a meeting for March 26, 1987 at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers to discuss the 1987-88 Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance.

The Building & Grounds Committee set a meeting for March 26, 1987 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers to discuss specifications for the portable office building.

Mr. Harper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfers be approved.

Transfers

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Dr. Earle asked the County Attorney for an opinion from the Attorney General about the possibility of creating a sinking fund since the county is expecting a short fall in revenue. Mr. Brandt said he would be glad to look it up and discuss it with him and/or the entire Council.

Opinion

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that the attached DSS Contract be approved.

DSS Contract

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that the attached Arts Contract be approved.

Arts Contract

Mr. Crain gave Council Members a copy of the attached letter and informed them the "Alliance for Education in Oconee County" is interested in meeting with Council to discuss the questions in the letter.

Education

Adjourn: 5:05 PM

Norman H. Crain /sg
Supervisor-Chairman
Oconee County Council