

**LINCOLN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MINUTES  
OCTOBER 13, 1997**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education met in a joint meeting on October 13, 1997 at the Citizens Center, Commissioners Room, 115 West Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina, the regular place of meeting at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing related matters. The following were present:

Louis E. McConnell, Chairman  
James A. Hallman, Vice Chairman  
Terry L. Brotherton  
Larry S. Craig  
Beth H. Saine

Richard L. French, County Manager  
Stan B. Kiser, Assistant County Manager  
Leon Harmon, Finance Director  
Amy S. Long, Clerk to the Board

Board of Education Members present were:

Jean Dellinger, Chairman  
Robin Heafner  
Sarah Hallman  
Virginia Dellinger  
Joe Miller  
Betty Lawing

Clarence Leatherman, Attorney  
Dr. Martin Eaddy, Superintendent  
Steve Zickefoose

Chairman Louis McConnell welcomed everyone to the October 13, 1997 joint meeting of the Commissioners and the School Board.

Dr. Martin Eaddy, Superintendent, gave an update on the Pumpkin Center, North Brook, and West Middle School construction programs.

Jean Dellinger expressed thanks to the Commissioners for hosting the evening. She stated that the Boards need open communications, they need input from each other. She commented that the Boards need to work together to meet the needs of the children.

There was a discussion on the effects of growth on the schools, including a new high school for the East Lincoln area.

Commissioner Terry Brotherton stated that an option for school construction is a 1% sales tax option. This gives Commissioners the right to impose a 1% sales tax option by referendum and it would create about \$2.5 million. He stated that this has been approved by Senate, and is at the House level now. He stated that this would be very beneficial to Lincoln County.

Dr. Eaddy presented the following figures for the area High Schools:

	Students enrolled currently	Capacity
East Lincoln High School	1,079	900
Lincolnton High School	891	850
West Lincoln High School	837	750

Chairman Louis McConnell stated that Commissioner Larry Craig was out of town and could not attend this meeting.

Chairman McConnell asked the following questions that Commissioner Craig had left for the meeting:

Can classrooms be added if necessary at any of the schools?

Dr. Eaddy commented on the possibilities of additions at the various schools. He stated that it is also possible to outgrow the cafeteria and restroom facilities. He stated that there are currently 4 lunches at East Lincoln High School.

Is there enough land at the 3 high schools to add on?

Dr. Eaddy commented that the only place to add on at East Lincoln High School, without major remodeling, is in the bus parking lot. He stated that at Lincolnton High School the back corner is a possibility. He stated that there is no athletic field capability, except possibly at West High or West Middle. He commented that all of the land at Pumpkin Center is being used, but there is a possibility to purchase more land.

Dr. Eaddy stated that there needed to be a new high school in the East Lincoln area, probably in the Pumpkin Center area. Commissioner Terry Brotherton stated that the land in the Pumpkin Center area is more reasonably priced.

Dr. Eaddy stated that there are plans to redraw district lines to balance schools for future growth. He commented that they will start the process in November.

There was a brief discussion of charter schools and the effect on the County.

Chairman Louis McConnell asked if it is any cheaper to build metal buildings instead of brick.

Dr. Eaddy commented that the metal buildings do not save that much money. He stated that there is a long-term maintenance problem. He commented that all roofs needing replacement will be replaced with hip roofs if possible.

There was a brief discussion on the future use of Asbury school

There was a discussion on the School Board's out-of-county travel and lack of textbooks.

Rick French, County Manager, reminded the Board of the meeting on the new Highway 16 on October 14, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. He talked about the possibility of relocation of the tax department to the Old Northwestern Building or Asbury School. He stated that M.B. Kahn could possibly look at Asbury School.

He commented that a work session was needed before October 31 to discuss Welfare Reform.

## **ADJOURN**

Being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, Chairman McConnell entertained a motion to adjourn the October 13, 1997 joint meeting with the Board of Education.

Commissioner Terry Brotherton motioned that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Beth Saine.  
Unanimously approved.