

# College applies for \$1.3 million federal grant

**News Herald**

**March 30, 1982**

By **STEPHEN HARRIS**  
News Herald Staff Writer

Western Piedmont Community College today will apply for a \$1.3 million grant from the federal government.

The Title III grant for institutional aid includes funds for a branch campus in eastern Burke County, plus other programs for the college for the next five years.

College trustees were shown the application Monday night in a meeting at the college.

The other programs which the college hopes to receive funding for are a computer science program for faculty, a management development program for top-level college officials, a learning assistance program for underprepared students, a data management system, and a development and information program for college staff.

The trustees also reviewed a preliminary set of changes in the trustees' bylaws.

Included in that revision is an atten-

dance requirement, quarterly meetings with special meetings to be called by the chairman, and a provision allowing for multi-year contracts for the president. WPCC president Jim Richardson was hired to a four-year contract last September.

The trustees also formally approved budget requests totaling \$660,000 for 1982-83 to Burke County. A trustee committee approved the budgets last week, but college officials said a formal vote was needed Monday night because a quorum was not

reached last week. County commissioners already have the budget requests.

Trustee Don Smith questioned a \$1,200 request for trustee expenses, a new item in the budget request. Although some trustees justified the request, saying county commissioners themselves have travel expenses, Smith cautioned that "I'm just not sure that is the sort of thing that will go over well with the commissioners."

Richardson also announced that

WPCC will continue its athletic program next year, even though three other colleges in the area have eliminated athletics. Although a student survey expressed a lack of support by students for athletics, and although the basketball team dwindled to seven players last winter, Richardson said "I'd like to see us continue for another year and then take another look."

College officials reported that they have refunded \$16,000 of funds to the state at its request due to a state budget squeeze.