

SCHOOL BOARDS ACT

Four Named To Board Of Community College

Three school boards in Burke County met jointly Monday night to appoint four trustees for the comprehensive community college authorized by Burke's voters in a special election March 21.

Named to the 12-member col-

lege board were:

Earl M. Spencer, president of Valdese Manufacturing Company, Valdese.

Dr. C. L. Walton, Glen Alpine physician.

Frank C. Patton, Morganton attorney.

Robert P. Carr, a civil engineer and Morganton's city manager.

Yet to be appointed are four trustees selected by the board of county commissioners and four to be named by the governor. Commissioners are expected to meet soon to make their appointments, and Governor Sanford will name his four appointees shortly thereafter.

Under the law, trustees shall come from the home county of the college or from adjoining counties. It is expected that the governor will name at least two members from neighboring counties because of the regional scope of the college.

Under the community college act passed by the 1963 General Assembly, all boards of education within the county have an equal voice in the selection of four trustees.

Members of the county board of education, Morganton city school board and Glen Alpine school board took their action at a dinner meeting at the Morganton Grill.

Dr. E. W. Phifer, chairman of the community college steering committee, and W. Stanley Moore, a member, met with the boards to formally notify them of their duties under the law regarding appointments.

After the official notification, Chairman George W. Williams Jr. of the county board presided at the joint session at which it was agreed that for the initial appointments the Burke school board should nominate two

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members and the other boards one each. This suggestion came from J. O. Barbour, Morganton board chairman. Under the law the nominees are subject to approval by all three boards.

Spencer, well known Valdese businessman and civic leader, was nominated by San Brinkley, member of the county board.

Spencer is one of the early supporters of the community college movement, as was Valdese Manufacturing Company of which he is chief executive officer. He is an alumnus of the University of North Carolina, chairman of the board of trustees of Valdese General Hospital and active in various community affairs.

Dr. Walton, who has been engaged in the general practice of medicine in Burke County for many years, is currently serving as chairman of the Glen Alpine school board. The board reported that it met Saturday and decided unanimously to nominate him for the college trusteeship.

Dr. Walton received a B. S. degree from N. C. State and was a school teacher before receiving his medical education at the Medical College of Virginia where he received his M. D. degree.

Patton, prominent attorney, is a member of the community college steering committee and took an active part in promoting its approval in the county-wide election. He is an alumnus of Duke University, a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and is a former Man of the Year in Morganton. He has been a longtime attorney for the city school board.

Carr, an engineering graduate of N. C. State College, has been a leader in the community college movement. He has appeared in Burke delegations before the State Board of Education when the county's application for approval was being considered.

He also represented the steering committee in a delegation attending a community college planning conference early in March when architects, engineers and other consultants advised local leaders regarding the establishment of community colleges.

The three school boards in their joint session agreed to designate later the length of terms for the four first appointees. After the board is created, all future appointments will be for eight-year terms.

In order to create staggered terms with three of the twelve trustees going off the board every two years — one from each of the three appointive agencies — the initial appointments will be for varied lengths.

One will serve until June 30 of the next odd-numbered year, which will be 1965; another to 1967, a third serving to 1969, and a fourth expiring 1971.



Earl M. Spencer



Dr. C. L. Walton



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