

COMMISSIONER'S RECORD N

Douglas County Republican, Lawrence

May 29, 1941.

A majority of the members of the Board of County Commissioners, namely L. H. Griffith, Chairman and Ed Johnson, Commissioner and the County Clerk met in adjourned regular session.

The Journal World presented a price of \$47.50 for a appearance and claim docket for the office of the Probate Judge. The form for such a docket had been made by Judge Gray, and he recommended that the World Company be allowed to furnish this book. The Board approved the purchase of the docket at the price stated herein.

The Board, also, approved the purchase of a typewriter for the office of the Clerk of Court.

Fred Martin and a salesman from the Martin Tractor Company met with the Commissioners in an attempt to interest them in the purchase of a moving machine from their company. The Board was advised by the County Attorney that it could not obligate the county by purchasing machinery on a rental basis, nor can they allow such obligation to run from one budget year to another, but must purchase machinery etc. only if the actual cash is on hand.

No further business appearing, the Board adjourned.

Once again, the Board reconvened as a Board of Equalization.

John Simmonds, 702 La. appealed to the Board for an adjustment on the assessed valuation of his property, known as Lot 94, 96 and 98 on Louisiana Street. Lot 94 is assessed for \$900.00; Lot 96 is assessed for \$900.00 plus \$4775.00 for improvements; Lot 98 is assessed for \$900.00 plus \$650.00 for improvements. The total for the property as a whole is \$8125.00. Mr. Simmonds said he paid \$4500.00 for the property. He says the \$650.00 placed the garage is all right; he is asking for reduction on the house only. The house is east 60 years old. Mr. Simmonds said he would satisfied if the county would reduce this to \$6000.00 (total for all the property), as this is the amount he would be glad it for. The Board assured him that it would view the property and give him an answer at a later date.

Don Evans, 941 Alabama, met with the Commissioners to discuss the assessment placed on his property and assessment placed on other properties in his neighborhood. He stated that if the valuation of his property is fair, then there are others in that same neighborhood which are far too low and out of line; he is asking the Board to check into this matter and make whatever adjustments are necessary.

The appeal of J. D. Martin was placed before the Commissioners. Mr. Martin is asking for a valuation reduction on his properties, described as the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 in Section 3-13-18 and the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 in Section 2-13-18. The first tract is assessed for \$2920.00 and the latter for \$1200.00. The Board agreed to view this property in the very near future.

A complaint on assessment placed on personal property was made by Willard Brown. This assessment is on the Band Box Cleaners on West 9th Street and on equipment in the barber shop at 820 West 9th. The barber shop's complaint was on a large mirror as to whether it was personal or real estate property. Frank Holliday, Deputy Assessor, returned it as personal property, whereas Mr. Brown says that he considers it real estate and should be assessed with the building. The barber shop equipment was turned in for \$75.00 by the assessor; Mr. Brown says this is too high. The Board, after listening to all stories concerning this assessment, was of the opinion that the mirror is personal property and feel that the \$75.00 is a very reasonable assessment. However, further consideration will be given to the matter. Mr. Brown objected to the valuation placed on his cleaning plant, which was raised this year over last year. Last year, the deputy assessor who assessed the property took it in for about 50% of what it cost Mr. Brown, who bought it second hand for \$1595.00. Mr. Brown says the boiler will have to be replaced next year if not this year. He said he would be willing to have this assessment reduced to the figure at which it was taken last year. This, too, was taken under consideration.

The Board listened to the appeal of Emma Hertzler, 811 E 11th, who asked the Commissioners to reduce the valuation placed on her property, known as Lot 98, New Hampshire Street, which is assessed for \$800.00 for the lot and \$1335.00 for the improvements, making a total of \$2235.00. She receives \$20.00 per month as rent. She had one offer to purchase the property for \$1500.00 but she had made no sale as yet. This house is 1008 New Hampshire. The Board placed this on the viewing list.

Mabel Hertzler Saunders, presented her complaint to the Board, requesting the reduction of the assessed valuation placed on property at 815 East 11th, legally described as: N 133' of NW 1/4 of Block #3, Earls Addition, less tracts to Hertzler and Carey; said lot being assessed for \$450.00 and improvements for \$1000.00, making a total of \$1450.00. She paid \$900.00 for the property in 1938. She says she hasn't been able to even paint the house, since the taxes were so high on it. The Board assured her that it would take this under serious consideration and give her an answer at a later date.

After viewing numerous properties, the Board of Equalization, by formal action, made its decision on the appeals heard to date from taxpayers and property owners who requested adjustments in assessed valuations.

Name	Adjustment
Chester Hemphill	(See HOLC--Chas. Springer)
A. R. Wallace	Cancelled \$500.00 on improvements which was placed on property for 1941.
Elsie Ringo	Improvement reduction \$350.00
Mrs. Myrtle Thompson	Improvement reduction \$1080.00
Thomas Lanahan	None
Charles Springer, Attorney for HOLC	Improvement reduction \$1380.00 on Lots 1 and 2 Levee Street
	Improvement reduction \$2160.00 on Lot 4, Block 3, Oread Heights
	No reduction on house at 13th Mass.
Geo. F. Humphrey	None
Henry Bowman	Land reduction \$500.00 on land in 33-13-20.