III. BOUNDARY COMMISSIONERS (defunct)

Pursuant to the constitutional ordinance establishing Saluda County, an act of 1896 confirmed the appointment of J. H. Edwards, B. W. Crouch, Alvin Ethredge, P. C. Stevens, B. L. Caughman, James P. Bean, C. P. Boozer, J. R. Watson and J. B. Suddath, as commissioners to have the boundaries of the county surveyed and properly marked, and to designate and establish the county seat. They were to serve until the duties were performed or imposed upon others. They were authorized to reserve compensation for themselves not to exceed one dollar a day, and mileage at five cents a mile one way for each day while actually engaged in performance of their duties. In case of death, removal, disability or disqualification of any one or more of them, the others were vested with full authority of the whole. (Stat. XXII, 248-53.)

The commissioners as the corporate authorities of Saluda County had power to organize, to elect and to remove their own necessary officers by a majority vote. They were also empowered to have Saluda County laid off into townships, voting precincts and school districts, and to name or number them. They were to provide suitable buildings for the several courts and county officers, to select and purchase or procure sites for the usual public buildings, and to contract for and superintend the erection of the courthouse and jail. They were to receive for the benefit of the county gifts and grants

For abbreviations and explanatory notes see pages 20-22

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offered as inducements for the selection of particular sites for the county seat, to enter into and enforce proper contracts according to the terms and, before the election for the county seat, to acquaint the people by advertisement of the offers made. They could "take conveyances to themselves of lands or personal property by way of a bonus for the County." A majority in their own names as commissioners, could execute deeds and conveyances to third parties in carrying out sales of any property received by them for the county. They were authorized to procure and keep a seal of their office; to issue bonds not to exceed \$20,000; to erect suitable buildings; and to defray other necessary expenses. Until the treasurer of Saluda County was appointed and qualified, revenue from the bonds was deposited with the county treasurer of Edgefield County, subject to check or draft of a majority of the commissioners, countersigned by the secretary of the commissioners (ibid. pp. 251-53).

The commissioners were required to keep minutes of proceedings and decisions at their meetings. They were also required to have a map made, showing lines, localities, names and numbers of the townships, voting precincts and school districts, (Ibid.) No records of this commission were found.