

Laughing Out Loud !!! Report and commentary by Robert A. Williams

All the internet and social media folks often use the term “lol” for “Laughing out Loud.” Sometimes they say “lmao” for “laughing my a** off.” I have found myself “lol” and occasionally “lmao” a lot lately—watching TV network news, reading Shelby Star propaganda articles about how well schools are doing, School Board meetings and County Commissioner meetings. Let’s go down a long list of belly busting reasons to laugh out loud and laughing my a** off situations.

- Democrat and Civil Rights icon John Lewis saying Trump was not a legitimately elected President and boycotted Trump’s inauguration. Now we find out that John Lewis didn’t pay his property tax on his \$800,000 DC townhouse. Also, Lewis’ income puts him in the top 8% while the income of his Georgia District is in the bottom 8% or so. John Lewis just joined the Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpen Club, playing his race card for money. Lewis once stated if the 1963 March on Washington did not produce the results he wanted, his people would drop the non-violence position and march through Georgia just like Union General William T. Sherman did in the Civil War.
- President Trump signed the paperwork to begin construction of the border wall. Liberals in the media are still whining. President Trump has started to make cuts to “sanctuary city” funding. More whining from the nitwit liberal media and nitwit mayors.
- The main stream national news is picking on Trump’s 10 year old son Barron. Chelsea Clinton is taking up for Barron, although Bill, Hillary and the femma-Nazis are not.

- Perhaps the biggest chuckle occurred when reading that 200 Trump protesters were arrested, including six in the media who were charged with felonies, in the DC riots at Trump's inauguration. These bunch of nit wits are about to learn that we now have a law and order president and attorney general who ain't putting up with no nonsense. I expect to see much more of this. Hey, fill up the jails and stack em high with media, criminals and professional protester riff-raff. Especially the looters and those that attack police officers. And those that attack Trump's family and supporters on airplanes.

Then you have the homegrown sort of ridiculous comedy:

- NC Governor Roy Cooper stole the election and is whooping and hollering about the bathroom bill and how he is going to stop it. And more. Tim Moore and the rest of the General Assembly won't have much of that kind of mess from Cooper.
- The Crooked and Crazy Cleveland County Commissioners are "pawning" the new Health Department to "borrow" \$34 million to build the new North Shelby School for the handicapped. Only thing is the Crooked Commissioners are hiding \$20 million of funding other stuff under the disguise of Economic Development. The January 3 and January 17, 2017 Commissioner's meetings were so much of a hoot watching the Commissioners fall all over themselves trying to over look a mountain of information that showed the silly school board had major cost over run and building foundation problems that they were covering up themselves. The blind was following the blind and they all were falling in the ditch of obvious and total incompetence and trying to lie out of it.
- The January 23, 2017 School Board meeting where the public was excluded. Millions of dollars of waste involved with the new North Shelby School construction and the totally incompetent school board still won't

listen to the facts. That is until the gavel went down to adjourn the meeting. Before the echo of the gavel cleared the room a well informed and technically competent citizen stood up and clearly told the incompetent school board they had multi-million \$\$\$ problems with the North Shelby School project as it presently stands. I sat there and heard every word. My input was only one word. Amen!" Now the school board can't deny knowing about the problems. But, of course, they will continue to lie about not knowing about problems. Then School Board members Donnie Thurman, Jr., Phillip Glover, Shearra Miller, Roger Harris, Jo Boggs, Jeff Jones and Richard Hooker huddled together in an "illegal" school board meeting. They all quickly cut a trail for the door when I walked up to hear what they were talking about-all within my legal rights as a citizen. It was a hoot watching the illegal meeting scatter for the cover when I walked up. Kinda like cockroaches do when you turn on the light. I'm "lol" right now as I write this up. I'll probably be sending an official compliant to the DA's Office, on top of filing a grievance with the school board as I have already done. Of course the school board won't do anything to themselves. Rules, policies and North Carolina law means nothing to them.

- Of course the Crooked and Crazy School Board and the Crooked and Crazy Commissioners team are used to wasting taxpayer money. They spent \$14 million to renovate the CCS Central Services Building but claim it only cost \$9 million. They spent \$22 million to build the new Shelby Middle School for 800 students when there are only 400 students attending. They spent \$19 million to build the LeGrand Center when the original cost was \$12 million. They will have to spend \$15 to \$16 Million to build the new North Shelby School Project when the original cost was \$10 million (they are still lying about that). The new North Shelby School was for 175 students while there

are only 82 students presently attending the existing North Shelby School. They spend \$Hundreds of thousands to renovate and maintain school or county owned property, then lease them out for \$1 per year. All these cost overruns only benefit one company. Holland and Hamrick Architects who seem to very often put out the same old obsolete building specifications yet charge new prices each time.

- The biggest laugh so far goes to the Shelby Star article coming out today about the Auditoriums at Burns and Crest High School. The jokes are on the taxpayers and the students at Burns and Crest. The first joke was the selection of the architect firm. Holland and Hamrick renovated the auditorium at the Central Offices and when the heating and air system kicks in, you can hardly hear a word back in the audience. It's a piece of junk of an auditorium. Holland and Hamrick should have been disqualified to start with. Now Burns and Crest will probably get pieces of junk too. If they get an auditorium at all. Only three weeks ago CCS Superintendent told the Crooked and Crazy Commissioners that the auditoriums were off the table at CCS in regard to a consolidated loan application for \$34 million. A loan that has the new Health Department, the new North Shelby School and (indirectly) the James Love Elementary School put up for collateral. A joke was pulled on the School Board too. Just about two seconds after the vote to hire Holland and Hamrick as the architect, Board Member Dr. Danny Blanton stated that he wanted the work on the auditoriums started tomorrow, not on November 7, 2017-which is election day for the school board. Dr. Blanton obviously knows that the whole auditorium "thing" is a publicity stunt (since there is no money) so the incumbent school board members can get re-elected. Another hoot is such a political tactic as this works as 50,000 voters are likely to stay home on the 2017 election as they did in the 2015 election. We will

see about that though as some young Turks are mulling over running against the in-crowd on the school board. Of course everybody wants equal facilities at all the county high schools. That includes swimming pools too. More on that later. BTW (by the way) the Star Reporter was not at the school board meeting and if you watch the tapes of the meeting you will see that some of the quotes used in the Star article were not made in the meeting. Obviously CCS sent this to the Star as a publicity stunt and the Star prints it as a news story. It will be interesting what the star writes in there future article as well as where they get their information.

Folks, that is enough laughter for now. The major laughter most of us in Cleveland County had when Donald J. Trump got elected as President can be repeated November 7, 2017 when Phillip Glover, Donnie Thurman, Jr. and Kathy Falls get booted off the School Board.