

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 3, 1971

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in the Rowan County Courthouse in the District Courtroom II, Salisbury, NC at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present: Chairman Eugene McCombs, Charlie Walters, Richard Messinger, Rufus Honeycutt and J. Lewis Sowers.

The Board meeting was called to order by the Chairman and opened with prayer. Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Walters and unanimously passed the minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Mr. Glover McPherson concerning a meeting on May 4 at 8:00 p.m. to discuss the application for the Grant, Town and Crane Tri-Creek Watershed. Mr. Messinger will attend.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Representative James F. Mohn, Jr. concerning House Bill 402, Equal Division Liquor Surtax. A motion was made by Mr. Walters to submit a resolution in support of this bill to Representative Mohn. Mr. Messinger seconded and was unanimously passed. (Attached)

The following road petitions were approved after a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters:

Safrit Road Annex – to be paved
Gaskey Road – to be paved

Mr. Messinger reported on letters that he had received from Mr. L. O. Howard and Mr. E. J. Scott concerning the heavy traffic on Briggs, Neel and Barringer Roads and a request that improvements be made by widening them from a safety stand point. After a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Walters and unanimously passed a request will be sent to the Highway Commission to investigate these roads for possible improvement.

Mr. Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector, reported \$73,830.88 had been collected during the month of April.

The following transfers were approved upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt. Attached.

The following personnel actions were unanimously approved after a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters:

Lloyd L. Russell, Deputy Sheriff \$457/month
Calvin R. Barringer, Deputy Sheriff \$457/month
Claire Walters, Health Dept. \$510/month

Mr. Murdoch read a letter he had written to Mr. J. E. Miller, Director NC Local Governmental Employees Retirement System stating the following people had reached the age of 65:

Gideon Misenheimer, Custodian & Warehouse Supervisor
Arthur Foster, Dog Warden
Nessie Anderson, Office Deputy Sheriff

A replacement is not currently available or feasible as they are in good health and not under the care of a doctor and requesting that they be allowed to remain in employment under the Retirement System. Upon a motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt unanimous approval was given to send the letter to Mr. Miller.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Walters and unanimously passed the lease on the Surplus Food Warehouse with Addie G. Ketner and husband was renewed until June 30, 1972.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Rowan Technical Institute requesting \$1,700 from unappropriated surplus be appropriated to the water & power line item in the current budget. Upon a motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Walters and unanimously passed this request was granted.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt and unanimously passed Mr. F. K. Fleming was re-appointed to the water/sewer committee for a five year term.

Mr. Murdoch reported on the proposed solid waste disposal program. The capital investment will be \$62,900 with annual operating expense of \$19,000 totaling \$81,900. Mr. Sowers asked that the Board investigate this program to see if other municipalities would be hurt if we decided to use this program. The Board will consider this program when the 1971-72 budget is prepared.

Mr. John Nettles, Director of the Sheltered Workshop, reported to the Board they are in the process of moving to Lincoln Elementary School. After they move they will be able to have better service. Since July 1970 the workshop has placed 21 people in employment. He said they have stayed within their \$87,000 budget and

they appreciate and hope to maintain the support of the Board. Mr. McCombs commended Mr. Nettles on the remarkable job they are doing.

Mr. Burt Hawley, Director Health Department, and Mr. Bill Heitman, of the Health Department talked about several resolutions the Environmental Task Force had previously presented to the Board. One in particular was on Birth Control. Mr. Hawley reported there are 32,000 women in this area between the ages of 15 to 40, but they are reaching only 10%. Mr. Hawley recommended that a representative from the Health Department be appointed to the Environmental Task Force Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Sowers and unanimously passed to appoint Mr. Bill Heitman to serve on this committee.

Mr. Leo Wallace, Mr. Sonny Epting, Mr. Jim Epting, Mr. Clyde Harris, Mr. Louis Harrison, Mr. Walter Wagoner, Mr. Bob Loeblein, Mr. Hank Palmer, Mr. Bill Roberts and Mr. Larry Windley, a committee from the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Board concerning the need of a water system in the county in order to bring in new industries. They reported that when new businesses are looking to Rowan County as a possible site for their industries they first ask about roads, railroads and water. The road and railroads are fine but the water system needs are to be desired. Sometimes new businesses do not come to Rowan County because of the lack of water in the County. They said they want to cooperate with the Commissioners in any way they can. Mr. Messinger brought the group up to date on the County's efforts to obtain additional water.

Mr. Doug Tennent, Architect, reported on the project for the restoration of the community building. He had talked with Mr. Jim Woodson about the possibility of obtaining some funds from the US Trust Funds, but Mr. Woodson said that is impossible at this time. Mr. Tennent said with the deletion of the mini park, elevator and other modifications to the restoration work the original figure could be brought down to \$200,000. A discussion with HUD officials revealed that after July 1, 1971 we can apply for a supplementary application for the work to the courtyard or mini park which will amount to between \$25,000 to \$30,000. At this time the HUD Administration Authority will be in Atlanta. The authorized Mr. Tennent to act on the list of his recommendations upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers and unanimously passed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Walters and unanimously passed Mr. McCombs was authorized to sign a deed to the City of Salisbury for 29.24% representing the County's portion of property in Jefferson Heights. This property will be sold at auction by the City and the County will receive its share of proceeds.

Mr. Murdoch read HB 134, ratified by the State Legislature, authorizing the county to pass a resolution to tow or remove any unauthorized vehicles parked on

county property. Mr. Messinger made a motion to pass a resolution to this effect. This was seconded by Mr. Honeycutt and unanimously passed. (Attached)

Mr. McCombs reported \$147,727.47 in interest had been earned through April 1971.

Mr. Honeycutt made a motion to send a letter to the surviving family of Charles A. Cannon. This was seconded by Mr. Sowers and unanimously passed.

Mr. McCombs said he would send a letter to Mr. Jesse Carson concerning his retirement as Superintendent of County Schools.

Mr. Sowers reported he had a meeting with Mr. Rowe McNeely, County Farm Agent, concerning new offices for the Farm Center. Mr. Sowers and Mr. McNeely had looked over the Shuford School in Granite Quarry as a possible site. Mr. McNeely is to meet with his people and let Mr. Sowers know of any difficulties involved with this location.

Mr. Murdoch reported Mr. Stamey Carter, Sherrill & Smith, said he probably would not meet the Mary 20th budget preparation date. Mr. Murdoch said he would let the Board know when he was prepared so they could set up the budget hearings.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary H. Beaver, Clerk