

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MAY 1, 1972

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in a Regular Session in the Community Building, Salisbury, North Carolina, at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present: Chairman Eugene McCombs, J. Lewis Sowers, Charlie Walters, Richard Messinger, and Rufus Honeycutt.

Chairman McCombs called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Walters, the minutes of the meetings of April 4 and 19 were unanimously approved.

Chairman McCombs reported that the interest collected through April 30, 1972 is as follows:

General Fund	\$68,389.00
School Fund	37,867.40
School Building	31,322.61
Debt Service	<u>6,691.59</u>
Total	\$144,270.60

Chairman McCombs received a letter from Mrs. Gettys Guille, Director of Rowan Museum, commending the Commissioners for the fine job they have done in restoring the Old Courthouse.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters, the following road petitions were unanimously approved:

Road off Henderson Church Road – addition to the system
Howard Avenue – addition to the system
Lentz Road – addition to the system

Mr. E. A. Goodman and Mr. Earl Bullard talked with the Commissioners about plans for the proposed extended care facility. After much discussion, it was decided to select an architect to prepare preliminary drawings and make applications for funds. The joint committee of Commissioners and Hospital Trustees recommended Connor Lee Associates of Charlotte as they have done previous mechanical work on the hospital.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters, Conner Lee Associates was unanimously selected to submit preliminary drawings.

Mr. Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector, reported the total collections through April 30, 1972, as \$80,547.50. Mr. Trexler was authorized to start advertising for the tax lien sale on May 8. The sale will be held on June 5, 1972.

Mr. Buddy Thomason of the Rowan County Volunteer Fireman's Association discussed with the Commissioners finances of the Volunteer Fire Departments. He expressed a need for radio monitors and better equipment to provide the necessary protection for shopping centers, apartment complexes, etc.

Mr. Messinger said he had met with the group and told them the County might be able to give them an additional \$9,000 for maintenance of radio equipment. Chairman McCombs suggested that each department wanting better equipment consider a district fire tax rather than a county-wide fire tax. Each district would then be able to keep all taxes it collected.

Mr. Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor, received a letter from the West Rowan Neighborhood Center Advisory Council stating that they have changed their charter so that they are not required to pay taxes for the year, 1972. They also asked to be relieved of paying 1970 and 1971 taxes.

Upon talking with the Board of Assessments in Raleigh, Mr. Peeler reported that the Council could not be relieved of these taxes as they were not considered a charitable organization during 1970 and 1971. The county Attorney recommended that Mr. Peeler write the Board of Assessments requesting that they send a letter to this effect.

A letter was read from Dr. Jane N. Higbee, M.D. resigning her position as Physician Psychiatrist at the Tri-County Mental Health Clinic. Mr. Walters made a motion to accept Dr. Higbee's resignation and to write a letter commending her for past service to the clinic. Mr. Sowers seconded the motion with unanimous approval.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters, the following transfers were unanimously approved: Attached.

Mr. Honeycutt reported that the North Kannapolis Jail was having trouble with an old air conditioner. After checking the monthly report, it was discovered that the jail has several accounts out of which it can transfer funds to the new equipment account if it is necessary to purchase a new air-conditioning unit.

Mr. Walters reported that as of July 1, 1972, a new law will go into effect requiring the county to provide facilities to house mental patients. He suggested that a portion of the North Kannapolis Jail be remodeled to serve this purpose.

Mr. Clarence Kluttz, County Attorney, said he would check on the details and requirements of this law.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters, the following new personnel were unanimously approved:

Robert W. Harrison, Deputy \$503/month
Jerry W. Overcash, Deputy \$503/month
Charles R. Greene, Deputy \$503/month
William D. Cooler, Deputy \$503/month
Joanne B. Holshouser, PHN \$571/month
Betty S. Beaver, Tax Mapper \$299/month

Chairman McCombs reported that according to the booklet "County Salaries in North Carolina," Rowan County has the sixth largest Sheriff's Department in the state and ranks fifteenth in starting salaries of deputy sheriff's.

The County Manager reported that he has received ten applications for the summer employment program. He said he would go through them as soon as possible and choose three for summer jobs.

A letter was read from Mr. Jim Foltz, Director of Dan Nicholas Park, requesting that Carol Foltz be hired as a part-time secretary to work six days a week from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at \$1.73/hour. This is to be a nine-month job.

Mr. Walters moved that this request be granted and that Article IV, Section 5 in the Personnel Resolution for Rowan County concerning the hiring of a family be waived. Mr. Messinger seconded the motion with unanimous approval.

The Commissioner proclaimed the week of May 7-13 as Senior Citizens Week at the request of Governor Bob Scott, who has proclaimed May as Senior Citizens Month.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt with unanimous approval, the following will be paid to Mr. Glenn Ray Holshouser out of contingencies:

\$91.35	for 2 tables
190.33	for filing cabinet
166.0	for work done in Superior Courtroom
\$448.28	Total

A letter was received from Blue Cross & Blue Shield Insurance Company stating that hospitalization insurance rates would be raised as of July 1, 1972. The County's portion will be increased from \$5.10 to \$6.66 per month per employee.

Mr. Sowers reported that the is ready to close the deed on the Rufty property. He suggested that the Commissioners be thinking about what is to be done with this property, keeping in mind the future expansion needs of the Jail.

The Commissioners scheduled the week of May 22-26 for budget hearings.

The County Attorney reported that he had received a bid of \$500.00 for the property of Della K. Young against which the County holds a welfare lien. Mr. Kluttz recommended that this property be sold at absolute auction at the door of the Courthouse on June 5, 1972, at 12:00 noon upon approval of the property committee.

Chairman McCombs said that the Open House of the Community Building, held on April 30, 1972 was very successful.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until Monday, May 22, at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Yours,
Pam Misenheimer