

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 5, 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, Lewis Sowers, Charlie Walters, Dick Messinger, and Rufus Honeycutt.

Chairman McCombs called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Messinger, the minutes of the meeting of August 7, 1972, were unanimously approved.

Commissioners discussed the organization of a Rowan County Historic Properties Commission. They decided that a public hearing should be held and that all interested parties, including the Salisbury Historic Foundation and those people suggested for the Rowan County Commission, should be invited to attend this hearing. Copies of the proposed ordinance establishing this Commission are to be sent to each party that is invited. The hearing will be held at the October meeting of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Sowers, delegate to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Convention, reported that Association dues would be increased January 1, 1973. He also stated that reservation service and the meals were very poor considering the amount of money each delegate had to pay to go to the convention. He asked that a letter from the Commissioners be sent to Mr. John Morrissey, President of the Association, voicing disapproval of the service received at the conventions.

Mr. Glenn Trexler reported that the collections for the month of August were \$58,498.76.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt the following refund was unanimously approved:

Jackson Park Lanes, Inc. - \$25.00

Mr. Messinger moved that the Tax Collector be authorized to collect the Third Creek Watershed taxes. The County Attorney and the Tax Collector are to investigate this matter further to determine the legal aspects of this collection. The motion was seconded by Mr. Honeycutt and unanimously approved.

An ordinance authorizing the Tax Collector to collect the taxes of Rowan county, The City of Salisbury, Kannapolis Sanitary District, and the Mt. Mitchell Fire District was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters. (attached)

Mr. Trexler reported that the tax liens on five pieces of property have been bought by Mr. Leo Wallace of Wallace Realty.

From a motion made by Mr. Messinger and seconded by Mr. Walters, the Board unanimously adopted a 55 percent tax assessment ratio for the year 1973.

Tax schedules for the re-evaluation program were presented to Commissioners by Mr. Richard Heller of Cole-Layer-Trumble. The schedules were unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt.

The Commissioners met the new director of the Rowan Public Library, Mr. David Devine. Mr. Devine complimented our present system and stated that he believed it could be developed into a model library system for the Southeast. He also named several areas of improvement in which he hopes to be working in the near future.

Mr. Paul Carter, Chairman of the Rowan County Housing Authority, and several local contractors met with the Commissioners to resolve some difficulties between these two groups. The local contractors feel they were not given a fair chance to bid on a lease housing project.

Mr. Carter explained that this project had to be handled through HUD. As neither the Housing Authority nor the local contractors have any experience with HUD, it was decided to let the contract to a firm who had this necessary experience. Mr. Carter said that the local contractors would be given a chance to bid on any future leased housing projects.

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

Barger Park, Rt. 11 – addition to the system
Barber Grange & Lyerly Road – addition to the system
Grady Street Extension – addition to the system

A letter was read from Mr. W. C. Coughenour of the Board of Elections stating he must have a legal description of each township in Rowan County. Mr. Clarence Kluttz, County attorney, and Mr. Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor, were authorized to furnish Mr. Coughenour with this information.

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

The following personnel were unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Messinger:

Rosie Bowers, Tax Clerk \$299/month
Gladys R. Lloyd, Key Punch Operator \$378/month
Shirley Bridges, Typist I \$380/month
James E. Haupt, Jr., Deputy Sheriff \$503/month
Vernie L. Clement, Deputy Sheriff \$503/month

The Commissioners unanimously approved the following refund after a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Sowers:

Margaret S. Morgan - \$5.00

A letter was received from Mr. Ray Hayworth, Director of the Rowan Regional Planning Board, recommending that Mr. John L. Thomason be appointed to the Salisbury Planning Board to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Rufus Cohen. The term for this appointment would expire December 31, 1974. Mr. Messinger moved that Mr. Thomason be appointed to fill this vacancy. Mr. Honeycutt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Messinger moved that Mr. Price Crowell be re-appointed to the Rowan County Housing Authority for a term of five years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walters and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walters asked that someone be appointed to replace Mr. Charlie Keaton on the Board of Directors of the Tri-County Mental Health Authority. Mr. Honeycutt said he would talk with Dr. Winfrey Whicker of China Grove to see if he would accept appointment to this positions.

Chairman McCombs reported that he and the County Manager have been looking into the possibility of purchasing a tire cutter for the county. This cutter would cut the tires in half making it possible to bury them at the landfill. The County Manager is waiting to see a machine of this type in operation before making a final decision. The cost of this machine would be around \$4,000.

A letter was received from the Chamber of Commerce saying that they would like to purchase 30,000 copies of a booklet entitled "Answers to Most Frequently Asked Questions About Drug Abuse" to be distributed throughout the County. They asked that the County donate \$100 to the Chamber toward the purchase of these

booklets. Mr. Messinger moved that \$100 be appropriated from contingencies to the Health Department, Account No. 4645, rent and miscellaneous; and that \$100 be taken from this account to be given to the Chamber of Commerce. The motion was seconded by Mr. Honeycutt and unanimously approved.

Chairman McCombs reported that the interested collected through August 31, 1972 was \$23,322.23.

Mr. Carl Sloop, Watershed Technician, has requested that an additional phone be put in at the Soil Conservation Office. The one phone that is there is not adequate for both the Soil & Water office and Mr. Sloop. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Messinger, this motion was unanimously approved.

The following bids were received for landscaping the mini-park:

Greendale Nurseries - \$849

Ben Brown - \$943

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, the bid was awarded to Greendale Nurseries, to be paid out of contingencies.

Mr. Walters moved that change order no. 1 to the mini-park for \$400 for the removal of the cement driveway between the Community Building and the Courthouse, be paid from contingencies. Mr. Honeycutt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Misenheimer, Clerk