

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 4, 1973

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, Rufus Honeycutt, Dick Messinger, Lewis Sowers, and Charlie Walters.

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 August 6 and 10, 1973, were unanimously approved.

Mr. Messinger told Commissioners that Mrs. Lucille Donnelly is retiring as Director of the Department of Social Services. Edwin Koontz has been appointed to this position. There is to be a reception for Mrs. Donnelly on September 18 in the Commissioners meeting room.

Chairman McCombs reported that the North Carolina ABC Board will be conducting alcohol rehabilitation seminars around the State. There will be one held in Morganton which Mr. Walters will attend.

A resolution was received from the Salisbury-Rowan Community Service Council recognizing the Commissioners for their interest in the plight of the poor in Salisbury-Rowan.

A letter was received from the State Department of Human Resources stating that all counties must go on the Food Stamp program no later than June 30, 1974. The Commissioners decided they would wait until June to go on the program and not start it earlier as suggested by the letter.

Mr. George Peeler of Salisbury spoke to the Commissioners concerning the sale of beer & wine on Sunday. He requested that these sales not be permitted on Sunday. He has talked with several citizens in the area and has found no one in favor of these sales. He said he had heard the issue would more or less be decided by the liquor by the drink referendum. However, he feels these sales on Sunday are not needed, and he hopes the Commissioners will not go along with it. He asked that they do "what is right".

Paul Wilson, of the Golden Eagle Restaurant, spoke on behalf of beer & wine sales on Sunday. He feels those who drink beer should have the right to buy it if they so choose. He feels to do away with the sales will increase bootlegging. He

stated his restaurant abides by ABC regulations and pays taxes. Bootleggers do not pay taxes.

J. D. Hurst presented petitions to the Commissioners from citizens in favor of beer & wine sales on Sunday. Others present concerning this issue were owners of John's Tavern, White Oak Grill, and Las Vegas Lounge and Spanish Main Steak House.

Chairman McCombs stated that the Commissioners do know the situation, but feel they cannot approve the sales on Sunday at the present time. He said he had received good indication that other municipalities might be changing their ordinances of sales on Sunday in the near future. He suggested that the ordinance be left as it is until the November 6 election. If the people approve the liquor by the drink referendum, that will be a good indication that they would want beer & wine sales on Sunday.

Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector, reported that collections for August were \$50,127.03. Mr. Trexler asked for permission to destroy 52 boxes of tax ledger cards for the years 1949-1960 according to the General Statutes of North Carolina. Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, this request was unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, a resolution granting Mr. Trexler the authority to collect taxes for Rowan County, the City of Salisbury, Kannapolis Sanitary District, and Mt. Mitchell Fire District was unanimously approved. (attached)

Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor, presented the following valuation report as of September 1, 1973:

55% Value	\$384,897,820
Estimated Utilities	<u>65,000,000</u>
	\$449,897,820
55% value 1972-73	
	<u>432,217,563</u>
Total 55% gain	\$17,680,257
Total 100% Value Sept. 1, 1973	
	\$817,996,000
Total 100% Value Jan. 1, 1973	<u>785,850,114</u>
Total 100% value gain	\$32,145,886

A discrepancy has been found in the amount of inventory listed for tax purposes with the Department of Revenue in Raleigh and the County Tax Supervisor's Office for the Salisbury branch of Roses Stores, Inc. Mr. Peeler said he

had notified the company and asked for an explanation of the discrepancies, but had received no reply. He is now requesting permission to add these taxes to the 1973 tax list, computing the difference at 55% and adding penalties for the past four years. The back taxes are as follows:

1969	\$3,490
1970	1,823
1971	10,886
1972	230,078

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, Mr. Peeler was given permission to collect these back taxes.

Sheriff John Stirewalt spoke with Commissioners concerning the patrol car that was wrecked on August 5, 1973. The other party involved was given the ticket; however, his insurance, Allstate, has refused to pay the \$2,200 damages incurred to the patrol car. Chairman McCombs has instructed the County Attorney to bring suit against Allstate Insurance Company for \$2,200.

However, the Sheriff's Department is short one patrol car. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Sowers, it was unanimously decided to purchase a new car with funds from the Sheriff's budget.

Mr. Messinger moved that the Sheriff proceed to get informal bids for this replacement vehicle on the basis that this is an emergency situation as stated in Chapter 143 of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Mr. Walters seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Doug Tennent, architect for the North Kannapolis Jail, went over several changes in the contracts that were necessary. After these changes are made, an additional \$338 is needed. Upon a motion from Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters, \$338 is to be appropriated from 1973-74 budget balance to be allocated- Revenue Sharing Funds for the North Kannapolis jail project.

The following road petitions were unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Sowers:

- Bertha Street- addition to the system
- Archie Road-paving
- Shade Tree Acres – addition to the system.
- Susan Lane-addition to the system.

The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to the Highway Department concerning a petition for SR 1345 which was approved last month. The petition was to "straighten and widen" but the Highway Department indicated it to be paved.

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

Arthur McGee, Janitor \$313/month
Kathy R. Sparger, Receptionist \$313/month
Georgetta L. Piper, Occupational Therapist \$719/month
Winifred P. Queen, Social Work Supervisor \$864/month
Donald W. Troutman, Deputy Sheriff \$553/month
Roland H. Moore, Equipment Operator \$415/month
Gary Plummer, Tire Cutter \$299/month

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Sowers, Carolyn W. Hood of Salisbury was unanimously appointed as Jury Commissioner for a two-year term beginning October 1, 1973. (attached)

Mr. Clarence Kluttz reported that the County holds a property lien against Mrs. Drama Wright Miller Bost in the amount of \$8,716. Mrs. Bost has agreed to convey this property to the County to be sold. Any excess profit achieved from this sale is to be returned to Mrs. Bost.

Mr. Sowers moved that this property, located at the intersection of Highway 152 and Mt. Pleasant Church Road, be sold at public auction, on the site, on Saturday, September 29, at 12 noon. Any excess over the amount of the lien, \$8,716, and after the cost of sale will be returned to Mrs. Bost. Mr. Honeycutt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The County Manager submitted a request from the Register of Deeds for Errors and Omissions Insurance. This is a type of professional liability insurance which would protect Mrs. Ramsey and her staff if they were sued because of errors or omissions.

Mr. Messinger moved that coverage of \$50,000 be purchased for \$289 a year. Mr. Honeycutt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Messinger, an addition to the 1973-74 budget was unanimously approved. (attached)

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, an amendment to the 1973-74 School Fund budget was unanimously approved. (attached)

The Parks & Recreation Commission requested permission to build an additional 18-hole miniature golf course at Dan Nicholas Park. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Sowers, this request was unanimously approved; and they may go ahead and let bids.

The County Manager presented an amendment to the personnel pay plan. Upon a motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, this amendment was unanimously adopted.

A letter was received from Ronald Lynch of the Institute of Government giving the results of his study of the Sheriff's Department and his recommendations.

Mr. Messinger moved that the Sheriff's Committee be authorized to meet with the Sheriff and negotiate the carrying out of Mr. Lynch's recommendations; and also to authorize a further-in-depth study of the Sheriff's Department for a fee of \$6,000 to come from Contingencies. Mr. Walters seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chairman McCombs reported the interest collected through August 31, 1973, as follows:

General Fund	\$16,725.20
School Fund	9,038.24
School Building	11,790.18
Revenue Sharing	10,417.40
Debt Service	<u>418.29</u>
Total	\$48,389.31

The Mental Health Clinic submitted a request for approve of the following personnel:

Lucretia Wagoner, Psychological Assistant \$8,224/year
Catherine Harlan, Staff Psychologist, \$11,916/year

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Messinger, these personnel were unanimously approved.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.
Pamela M. Ribelin, Clerk