

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 3, 1973

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

The County Manager called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Mr. McCombs noted an error on Page 3 of the minutes of November 19, 1973, meeting. He moved that the sentence "The Commissioners also granted permission to transfer funds within the budget." Be stricken from the minutes and the minutes of the meetings of November 5, 19, and 29, 1973, then be approved. Mr. Sowers seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. This error was noted and has been duly corrected.

At this time nominations were received for the office of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the board. Upon a motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Messinger, Eugene McCombs was nominated to the office of Chairman and unanimously approved. Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. McCombs, Mr. Sowers was nominated to the office of Vice-Chairman and unanimously approved. The County Manager then turned the meeting over to Chairman McCombs.

Mr. Murdoch has been notified that Ron Lynch of the Institute of Government has completed his report of the Sheriff's Department. Chairman McCombs suggested that the Commissioners meet with Mr. Lynch to discuss the report before it is sent to the printer. As everyone agreed with this proposal, the County Manager is to arrange a meeting with Mr. Lynch.

A letter was received from the Department of Human Resources stating that the Jail and Detention Services program has been transferred from the responsibility of the Department of Social Services to the Division of Facility Services.

Mr. Murdoch reported that the House Finance Committee will vote on Committee Substitute for House Bill 529 on December 7. The bill provides that taxes be paid on motor vehicles when the vehicle is registered with the State. Car owners would renew registration on regular anniversary dates throughout the year rather than all at one time during tax listing time.

Mr. Sowers moved that a resolution be sent to each of our legislators expressing the Commissioners favor of passing House Bill 529. Mr. Walters seconded the motion and it was approved upon a vote of three for and one against.

The following road petition was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers:

Anthony Road- addition to the system.

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

Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector, reported that taxes in the amount of \$443,686.61 were collected in November, 1973.

Chairman McCombs reported that the interest received through November 30, 1973 was as follows:

General Fund	\$58,473.06
School Fund	28,058.76
School Building	26,168.32
Revenue Sharing	27,083.45
Debt Service	<u>1,289.64</u>
Total	\$141,073.23

James Kluttz, Architect for the Health Center, presented the following bids that have been received: (attached)

Mr. Kluttz recommended that the low bids and several alternate bids be accepted. (attached).

Mr. Kluttz explained that the law has been changed since the beginning of this project. Consequently, the originally planned sewage system has had to be deleted. There are three alternative plans: putting in a septic tank, running a line to I-85 to dump into the tributary, or run a line along the Old Concord Road to hook onto the City system. The cost of a sewage system could vary from \$10,000 to \$150,000 depending on which system was used. Mr. Kluttz plans to use the septic tank system if the soil on this property is satisfactory for this purpose. As tests have not been completed, it is not certain that a septic tank system can be used.

Chairman McCombs recommended that the percolation tests on the property be continued to determine whether or not a septic tank can be used. Awarding of the bids will be delayed until December 12 to get the results of these tests. Chairman McCombs also asked Mr. Kluttz to have an overall figure of the entire

project so that the Commissioners will know where they stand concerning the appropriated budget and can award contracts accordingly.

Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor, reported that revaluation proceedings are not going well. Mr. Messinger and Mr. Walters, however, have received complaints from several citizens that they could not get through to the revaluation office to make an appointment.

Mr. Messinger said everyone who has a complaint should have the opportunity to be heard, even if hearings must be past the deadline. He suggested that Mr. Murdoch and Chairman McCombs draft a statement to the press outlining the exact procedure required in voicing a complaint and in making application to the Board of Equalization and Review. He asked that this statement be as simple as possible so that everyone could understand it.

Don Donaldson and Oscar Strikeleather requested that the Commissioners approve the sale of beer and wine on Sunday in Rowan County. As the Commissioners had delayed action on this issue until after the liquor by the drink referendum, they asked that a decision be made so they would not be left hanging. Municipalities sell beer; people can brown bag liquor on Sunday, but cannot buy beer.

It was decided to get some information about what areas of the County have beer and wine sales on Sunday and which do not, and take it up at the December 12 meeting to reach a decision.

James B. Lloyd, Historic Properties Commission, submitted a request that a public hearing be held to determine acceptance of the Kerr Mill property as a Rowan County Historic Site.

This public hearing will be held on January 7, at 9:30 a.m.

Architect Doug Tennent presented a plan for furnishing the circular court room. He estimated a cost of about \$3,000 for seating and \$4,000 to \$5,000 for a judges bench and bar rail.

Mr. Messinger moved that Mr. Tennent proceed with this layout and present some prices at the next meeting. Mr. Walters seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

David Devine, Director of the Rowan Public Library, and Bill Roberts, Library Board, presented figures concerning the renovation of the Library. Their total revenue available amounts to \$104,350.08. However, the total anticipated expenses amount to \$163,615.55, leaving a difference of \$59,265.47. They asked the

Commissioners advice as to how to remedy this situation. Mr. Devine feels he has a good renovation plan and he would like to carry it through if at all possible. The Commissioners studied the information presented noting that the architect's fee is becoming excessive; and the project has not yet been started.

It was decided that the architect's fee must be brought under control before any further funds are appropriated to this project. The Commissioners asked Mr. Devine to contact the architect and work out a feasible agreement, and to meet with them again on December 12.

Sheriff John Stirewalt reported that the jail inspector came last week and said all prisoners will now have to be examined by a doctor within 48 hours of being admitted to the jail. The County Manager is to contact Dr. James Coffey to see if he would be interested in working out some agreement to stop by the jail several times a week.

Sheriff Stirewalt said he also needed more Court Officers as three courts are being held much of the time. The commissioners suggested waiting until the meeting with Ron Lynch to see what the survey determines.

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

George F. Harrison, Deputy Sheriff \$553/month
Shirley J. McGee, PHN I \$719/month
Lisa H. Barnhardt, Social Worker \$657/month
Barbara A. Dunham Social Worker II \$787/month
Carolyn P. Furr, Social Worker II \$825/month
Roy L. Wilson, Equipment Operator \$496/month

A request was received from Larry Parrish, Mental Health clinic to delete line items for consultant fee and transfer the funds to salaries. Mrs. Evelyn Fowler, who occupies the position of pharmacist, has been paid from salary account rather than the consultant fee account. This transfer would remedy the situation.

Mr. Parrish also requested that the \$25/day maximum \$50 per week restriction placed on this position when Mrs. Fowler was hired be eliminated to enable her to be paid for the actual time she works. If her salary exceeded \$2,600, the amount budgeted for this position, more funds would be requested.

Action on these requests was delayed until the next meeting.

A request was received from Seth R. Mull, Custodian to raise the salary of Travis Eller, who is employed at the Surplus Foods Warehouse, \$.10 per hour, effective January 1, 1974.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Messinger, this request was unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Sowers, the attached list of Farm Census Enumerators for 1973 were unanimously approved. (attached.

Mr. Nesbitt Rudisal was unanimously appointed to the Spencer Board of Adjustment upon a motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Messinger.

Upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Sowers, a resolution changing the Rowan County Civil Defense Agency to the Civil Preparedness office of Rowan County was unanimously approved. (attached)

A resolution annexing territory to the Kannapolis Sanitary District was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Sowers. (attached)

A memorandum was received from Herbert Hawley, Director of the Health Department. He has received additional funds of \$40,175.24 from the Division of Health Services and has requested the following budget revisions. (attached)

These requests would bring the total budget for the Health Department to \$379,411.24.

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Messinger, the requests were unanimously approved.

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Upon the recommendation of Stamey Carter of Sherrill and Smith, CPA, Mr. Messinger moved that bonds for Tax Collector Glenn Trexler and County Manager Seth Murdoch be raised to \$75,000. Mr. Sowers seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Murdoch reported he had talked with Bill Coughenour's sister concerning the purchase of property on Liberty Street. She said they were not interested in selling the property. However, they would consider leasing the property to the County if an agreement could be reached.

The Commissioners decided to offer \$50,000 for the Wallace property before trying the lease arrangement. Mr. Sowers is to contact the Wallaces.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned until December 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela M. Ribelin, Clerk