

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADJOURNED SESSION  
FEBRUARY 18, 1974

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in an adjourned session in the Community Building, Salisbury, North Carolina at 7:30 p.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. He has asked Architect Doug Tennent for a small plan, at no cost and with guarantees, to see what can be done concerning additional space at the Jail and possibly the Courthouse.

Mr. Tennent said he had studied the "Floor Space Plan for the Courthouse", which was made by Wane Gladden. One statement in this study said that an additional courtroom would be needed in the next 10 years. Mr. Tennent felt that the Courthouse would be adequate for court related facilities if the County offices could be relocated. His plans take into consideration a potential jail increase, the Sheriff's Department, the Tax people, and parking problems. He presented the following three schemes:

1. Tear down the old jail, build a new addition for the Sheriff's Department, and add another story to the jail. Kitchen facilities would be moved to the location of the present Sheriff's Department. Facilities would be provided for unloading prisoners using the present driveway.
  2. This is the same plan with one exception. Provision for unloading the prisoners would be made on the opposite side of the building next to the Church property.
  3. Tear down the old jail, extend the jail toward Church Street, and build a new Sheriff's department onto this extension. This would eliminate having to add another floor to the Jail at this time, leaving room for future expansion. The kitchen would be between the present jail and the new Sheriff's space next to the Church property. Entrance for the prisoners would be where the present Sheriff's Department is located.
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1. Tear down the old bus station and build a new facility on the same location. The new facility would be on stilt to provide some parking space underneath.
  2. The only alternative to this plan was to move the new facility closer to the courthouse, eliminating the driveway between the buildings and putting it

between the new facility and the Rufty building. The area between the new facility and the Courthouse would be landscaped giving the three buildings a more unified appearance.

After discussing the three schemes, the Commissioners thanked Mr. Tennent for his cooperation. They wish to study this matter further before making any plans.

The Rowan County School Board was present with its long range plan for the next 5 years.

Also discussed was the China Grove gymnasium. Mr. Lamar Trexler reported that the plans were to use the foundation of the old gym for the new building. However, upon tearing into the foundation, it was discovered that it was full of termites and would have to be replaced. This will cost an extra \$12,000. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Messinger, \$12,000 was appropriated from capital outlay, balance to be designated upon approval of Commissioners, 1973-74 budget to complete this project.

The school board also requested that they be allowed to transfer \$150,000 from the East Rowan project to the Faith project. They intend to use State Bond money for the East Rowan project. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters, this request was unanimously approved.

Mr. W. C. Rogers reviewed the long-range building plan and requested that the Commissioners approve the plan. The School Board must send a long range building plan to Raleigh before they will be allocated any of the State Bond money.

Chairman McCombs recommended only one change in the plan. He asked that the Administrative Offices, which are now scheduled for the end of 1977, be moved to the end of 1978. He said he would like to see all other plans completed before Administrative offices are built. The school board had no objection to this change.

Mr. Honeycutt made a motion that the plan be approved with the exception of changing the plans for the Administrative Offices to the end of 1978. Mr. Walters seconded the motion.

Mr. Sowers proposed an amendment that no money for the administrative building be appropriated unless all band rooms, class rooms, gymnasium needs, etc., were met. Mr. Walters said he would second the amendment in order to get it on the floor for discussion.

Mr. Lamar Trexler stated that if this were the case, there would never be a new Administrative office. There would always be needs of this sort to be taken care of.

Mr. Messinger said he felt the plan was fair in that all major projects were to be completed before an administrative office is built.

Upon taking a vote, two Commissioners voted for the amendment, and three voted against it.

A vote was taken to approve the long range plan. Four voted for the plan and one abstained from voting, therefore the plan was approved.

Chairman McCombs reported that it has been over two years since Rowan County hosted a Centralina Council of Governments meeting. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Messinger, Rowan County will host the March 20 bi-monthly meeting of the Centralina Council of Governments. The city said they would share half of the cost of this project.

The County Manager presented a resolution “To Develop and Implement a Plan Resulting in a Coordinated Waste Treatment Management System” for the Centralina Region. The resolution would give the Governor authority to designate appropriated funds for this plan. Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Sowers, the Resolution was unanimously approved. (attached)

Chairman McCombs reported that the Board of Equalization and Review hearings will begin on April 1 at 1 p.m. It was agreeable with the Board that they would meet each night during the following week until all persons are heard. If necessary, the hearing will be continued on Monday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m.

The County Manager reported that it is sometimes necessary to send prisoners to Raleigh for safe keeping. A statement for the following prisoners has been received:

Frankie Russell - \$234.00  
James L. Tatum - \$253.75  
Johnny F. Wagoner - \$557.00

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters seconded by Mr. Sowers, the funds for this item are to be taken from contingencies.

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers, a resolution changing the name of the Rowan Regional Planning Board to the Rowan Municipal

and County Planning Board was unanimously approved subject to the approval of the City of Salisbury. (attached)

A request was received from the Sheriff's Department concerning a newly hired deputy, Mr. Grover Bare. Mr. Bare has had previous experience in law enforcement and is already certified by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Training & Standards Council. The Sheriff requested that Mr. Bare be given a salary of \$6,960 instead of the beginning salary of \$6,636. Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers this request was referred to the Sheriff's Committee giving them the power to act on this request.

The following transfer was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Messinger, seconded by Mr. Walters: Attached

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers, the County Manager was given the authority to negotiate and purchase the Brawley property for future Library expansion.

A meeting of the water & sewer committee will be held Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Building. All those involved in running the campaign, along with the engineers from Charlotte, will be present to get everyone off on the right foot.

A bid of \$1,000 was received on a hog barn at the County home. After checking into this matter, this person has found that it will cost him around \$750 to move the barn. He has therefore requested that he be allowed to reduce his bid to \$500. As this property has not yet been advertised for sale, this reduced bid was accepted. Mr. Sowers made a motion to advertise the sale of this property with the bidding to start at \$500. Mr. Walters seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The County Manager said that whoever bought the barn would have to put a fence where the barn was.

Chairman McCombs welcomed Miss Allison Walters, daughter of Commissioner Charlie Walters, who attended the meeting.

Chairman McCombs reported that of the funds set aside in the County School budget to be designated by the Commissioners, there is a balance of \$165,287 remaining.

Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers, Mr. J.E. Fisher, Jr., was unanimously appointed to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela M. Ribelin, Clerk  
Rowan County Board of Commissioners