

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADJOURNED SESSION  
MARCH 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, R. D. Messinger, Lewis Sowers and Charlie Walters.

Chairman McCombs called the meeting to order. The first order of business was a preliminary discussion of the 1974-75 budget. The County Manager had prepared a list of estimated revenues and expenditures which had been mailed to all Commissioners. Chairman McCombs explained he felt that, due to the revaluation of property, some indication should be given to the taxpayers as to what their tax rate would be for 1974. He asked if any of the Commissioners had any questions concerning the information they had received about the estimated budget. Mr. Messinger asked about the surplus funds and what their status was expected to be at the end of the fiscal year 1973-74. Mr. McCombs told him that it was expected that a normal surplus would be available, but it would not be known until the audit was complete. After reviewing the other figures, Mr. McCombs asked if anyone would like to suggest a maximum proposed tax rate. Mr. Messinger moved that the 1974 tax rate be no more than \$.45 per \$100 valuation with the hope that it could be less when the final revenue and expenditures are compiled. Mr. Honeycutt seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, Mr. McCombs asked that all commissioners in favor of this motion raise their right hand. All five voted for the motion.

Due to an error in previous resolutions designating the Poole Town Fire District boundaries and agreement, new resolutions were unanimously passed upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Messinger.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Sowers March 21 through April 21, 1974, was proclaimed by resolution as Home Garden Month in conjunction with the State of North Carolina. (attached)

Mr. Rowe McNeely, Farm Agent, requested that the Commissioners appropriate some money to purchase a combination cattle chute and scales. This will be used in conjunction with the County program to improve the grade of cattle being raised by local farmers. Mr. McNeely said that a service fee will be charged to defray the upkeep and expense of operating the piece of equipment. Three bids were received for the purchase. They were as follows:

Circle S Ranch	1,051.95
Robert Rhyme	1,215.00
Jim Tucker	1,297.00

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Sowers, \$1,051.95 was appropriated from contingencies to buy the piece of equipment from Circle S Ranch.

A road petition was received from Mr. O.D. Rentz, District Engineer, DOT, requesting that SR 1351 be deleted from the official highway map of Rowan County as the road does not exist. This was approved upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters.

The following transfers were approved upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters: Attached.

A request from the Town of Faith to prepare their tax scrolls for \$50.00 was approved upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Walters, a resolution was unanimously passed designating the City of Salisbury as the Lead Agency to develop a 201 Facilities Plan for waste water treatment services and facilities for the “Greater Salisbury Complex” as defined by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Economic Resources. The Chairman appointed Mr. Messinger as a member of a steering committee to coordinate the development of these plans. (attached)

A letter was received from Mr. O. D. Rentz concerning the cost of the construction of an access road at Dan Nicholas Park to the proposed Day Camp Area. Mr. Rentz estimated that it will cost \$18,000. Mr. Walters moved that the road be built with \$11,000 coming from ABC contingencies, and \$7,000 coming from regular contingencies. Mr. Honeycutt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The following refund was approved upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt:  
 Jim Walter Homes - \$7.20

A letter was received from Jim Foltz, Park Superintendent, requesting that \$200 be set up in petty cash for the campground and campground concessions. This request was approved upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sowers, seconded by Mr. Walters, Mr. Bert Hawley, Director of the Health Department, was designated as the person to contact in connection with dead domesticated animals in accordance with G.S. 106-403.

Mr. Larry Parrish, Mental Health Administrator, requested that he be allowed to add to his staff and hire an alcoholism education consultant at an annual salary of \$10,368, with a six-month increase to \$10,860. Expenses for the remainder of this fiscal year are estimated at \$6,515.14. Rowan County would pay 50 percent of this cost. Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers, this position was authorized with the money coming from revenue from the ABC \$.05 per bottle tax.

Mr. Parrish also presented a memorandum of understanding between area mental health board and the North Carolina State Department of Mental Health. This memorandum was approved upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers. (attached)

Mr. Sowers discussed his progress in attempting to purchase additional property in the vicinity of the Courthouse. Upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Sowers, the property committee was authorized to negotiate with prospective sellers and obtain an option to purchase the needed property.

Commissioners were reminded of the Council of Governments meeting Wednesday, March 20, 1974, at 6:15 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, which the County and the City of Salisbury are sponsoring.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela M. Ribelin, Clerk