

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 1, 1975

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 Rufus Honeycutt, Eugene McCombs, Charlie Walters, Hall Steele and Bob Mauldin.

Chairman Honeycutt called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Mr. Steele moved to approve the minutes of November 3, 1975 and Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman Honeycutt then turned the meeting over to the County Manager for the nomination and election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the coming year. Mr. Mauldin nominated Mr. Honeycutt as Chairman seconded by Mr. Steele. As there were no further nominations, Mr. Steele moved that the nominations be closed and that Mr. Honeycutt be elected Chairman. Mr. McCombs seconded with unanimous approval. The floor was then opened for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Mauldin nominated Mr. Steele and was seconded by Mr. McCombs. As there were no further nominations, Mr. Walters moved that the nominations be closed and that Mr. Steele be elected vice-chairman. Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval. The meeting was then turned back to Chairman Honeycutt.

Upon a motion by Mr. McCombs, seconded by Mr. Mauldin, Chairman Honeycutt was unanimously elected as the County Representative to the Centralina Council of Governments for the coming year with each of the other Commissioners serving as alternatives.

It was noted that in the Social Service's monthly report that Mrs. Pethel has had to resign as Cottage Parent Supervisor at the Lucille Donnelly receiving home because of her health. Mr. McCombs moved that a letter of appreciation be written Mrs. Pethel for her services. Mr. Steele seconded with unanimous approval.

A letter was received from Mr. James Lloyd, Chairman of the Rowan County Bicentennial Commission, requesting that the Commissioners extend the appointment of the Commission to December 31, 1976 in order to complete their celebrations and final accounting after July 4, 1976. Mr. Walters moved that this be granted. Mr. Steele seconded with unanimous approval.

The County Manager read a letter from Mr. D. P. Dickey, Director of Planning, Division of Youth Services, State of North Carolina Department of Human Resources. He stated that in Chapter 929 of the 1975 Session Laws, the General Assembly had created a technical Advisory Committee on delinquency prevention and youth services. At the committee's first meeting, they instructed Mr. Dickey to contact each Board of County Commissioners to see if they are interested in participating in the programs under this act. If they are interested, a task force must be appointed by January 1, 1976 to conduct or arrange for a study of the youth needs in their county, giving particular attention to the need for delinquency prevention programs and community based services which would provide an alternative to commitment of children to training schools. Preliminary findings in reports are to be filed with the Secretary of Human Resources by January 1, 1977, and full report by January 1, 1978. The State Government would provide technical assistance to the task force and information on sources of state and federal funding to support recommended programs and services for youth. The Board will take this under advisement and take appropriate action at their next meeting.

Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector, reported his office had received \$424,752.90 in taxes during November from all sources.

Mr. McCombs gave the following report on interest collected as of November on money appropriated but not yet spent:

General Fund	\$42,650.29
School Fund	21,744.85
School Building	1,945.76
Debt Service	1,258.44
Revenue Sharing	9,671.25
Tech Bonds	<u>55,532.45</u>
Total	\$132,803.04

Mr. Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor, briefed the Commissioners on a change in the tax laws affecting the listing and taxes of a tractor trailer rig owned by Mr. Charles Barber of Cleveland. His tractor is licensed and leased in Ohio. Previously, the State utilities commission pro-rated the tax according to the mileage driven in North Carolina. Under the change in the law, the tractor must now be listed as personal property. The assessed value of the truck would increase the tax from about \$7.00 to \$160.00. Mr. Barber feels that the truck is licensed and leased in Ohio and that state has no personal property tax, that he should not have to pay taxes in Rowan County. The Commissioners asked that Clarence Kluttz get with Wallace Peeler and the Barbers and make a recommendation on the issue.

Mr. Peeler reported that as of December 1, 1975, the assessed valuation in the County was \$1,090,712,647.

Mr. Peeler requested a refund on 1974 taxes to Stevecoknit, 1450 Broadway, New York, NY on inventory sent to the North Carolina Finishing Company in the amount of \$501.81. This is based on a Supreme Court decision concerning inventories sent into the state for finishing and then sent out again. Mr. McCombs moved that his refund be granted. Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

Gary Wilson of the COG Staff was present at the meeting but had no report on activities for November.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Waller, Jr. requested that the Commissioner remove garbage containers at the junction of the Faith Road and Miller Road. Mr. Waller stated that they were a nuisance as far as traffic is concerned and unsightly when filled. He said he had opened Miller Road at his own expense, \$3,000 even though the road does not belong to him. He is building a new home about two blocks from the site and he did not want them at the road entrance. The county manager reported that the containers are located on property owned by Mr. Lee Miller, who has given the County permission to place them there. They are set back in the woods well off the road to allow cars and trucks access to them without blocking the road. He showed the Commissioners photographs of the location and a map showing the location in relation to the Waller's home and the adjoining property owners. The Commissioners instructed the Manager to see that the containers were emptied seven days a week and told the Wallers that they would look further into the problem.

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

Diane Earnhardt Veterans Service Office \$360/month
Charlotte K. Horton – Social Services \$538/month
Betty Young – Social Services \$590/month
Anna H. Bruce – Social Services \$538/month
Hilda Adams Social Services \$470/month
John Blair Social Services \$590/month

A request from Jim Foltz, Parks Director, to change Ms. Linda Kepley from part time to full time, and Arthur Jones from full time to part time was approved upon a motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Steele.

The attached resolution relating to the annexation of property owned by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Marlowe to the Kannapolis Sanitary District was approved upon the motion of Mr. McCombs seconded by Mr. Steele.

Doug Tennent, Architect for the new county office building briefed the Commissioners on the status of the bid preparations. He wants to be absolutely certain that the alternates in the bid request are crystal clear so there will be no misunderstanding among the contractors. He said that all should be ready to advertise next week with bids being returned by January 8, 1976. Mr. Tennent also discussed the fire rating of the walls in the Register of Deeds vault. At present, he has designed two hour rating walls. The Insurance Commissioner in Raleigh suggests that he go to three to four hour ratings. The Commissioners agreed and this change will be made. Mr. Tennent said the new jail and Sheriff's Department would be ready for inspection next week and he would notify the Commissioners of the date and time.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Walters, a 50 year lease agreement with the State of North Carolina for a piece of property 500' x 600' adjoining property at the Rowan County Airport already under lease to the State of North Carolina, was approved for the construction of a National Guard Armory.

Upon a motion by Mr. Mauldin, seconded by Mr. Steele, a one year lease agreement was approved with Home and Oil and Coal Company for a filling station on the corner of Main and Liberty Streets for \$225 a month.

Jean Ramsey, Register of Deeds read a prepared statement to the Commissioners containing three points. The first concerned the fire rating of the walls in her new vault. The Commissioners told her that the rating had already been changed from two to four hours. The second point was that she wanted to go on record as opposing her proposed move from the Courthouse to the proposed New County Office Building. Finally, she requested that regardless of where she was located that a duplicate file of her records be stored in a fireproof vault in a separate building. Mr. McCombs suggest that when the new facility is complete that one of Mrs. Ramsey's present vaults be retained for this purpose. All the commissioners agreed with this solution.

Upon a motion by Mr. McCombs seconded by Mr. Steele, joint resolution with the County and the City of Salisbury and the Town of Rockwell for County enforcement of the Sedimentation Control Ordinance were unanimously passed. (attached)

A request from the Rowan county School Board to amend their regular Capital Outlay Budget for 1975-76 by \$10,400 received from the sale of the Cleveland Principal's house was approved upon a motion by Mr. McCombs seconded

by Mr. Steele. \$3,899 would go to account 682-3, alterations and additions to existing buildings, and \$6,511 to account 682-3A, incentive matching for schools.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele seconded by Mr. Mauldin, a Memorandum of Agreement on the Child Support Enforcement Program between Rowan County and the State Department of Human Resources was unanimously approved.

December 25 and 26 were approved as Christmas holidays as was January 1, 1976, for New Years upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Mauldin.

The Rowan County Schools requested that they be allowed to remove the fuel tanks at Main and Kerr Streets to use at the bus garage. Upon a motion by Mr. McCombs seconded by Mr. Mauldin, this was granted upon the condition that they would be charged the fair market value for them in their 1976-77 budget.

A request from the Health Department for a \$10.00 petty cash fund was approved upon a motion by Mr. McCombs seconded by Mr. Walters.

The County Manager brought to the attention of the Commissioners that the telephone in the Law Library was being misused by lawyers for personal long distant phone calls. He was instructed to write a letter to Art Donaldson, President of the Rowan County Bar Association stating that the phone is for local calls only and will be removed if it is continually misused.

Mr. Walters told the Commissioners that it had been recommended that the Advisory Board for the Mental Health be composed of members from all three Counties instead of three separate boards. He moved that this be approved if the Commissioners still retained their appointive powers for this Board. Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

The County Manager requested that he be allowed to request each department head to send him a list of approximately one-third of their employees in the order that they would like to see them receive merit raises as of January 1, 1976. These lists would then be used to grant the raises with the money allocated to each department. This request was granted.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Glenda Earnhardt, Clerk