

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADJOURNED SESSION  
JANUARY 10, 1977

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building, Salisbury, North Carolina, at 2:00 p.m. The following members were present: Chairman Rufus Honeycutt, Hall Steele, Bob Mauldin, Paul Smith and Dr. John Wear.

Chairman Honeycutt called the meeting to order and presented a plaque that was received by the Board through the Grand Master of Masons from the North Carolina Masons commending Rowan County and its citizens for providing the friendly atmosphere and moral climate in which freemasonry was nurtured and flourished for more than 200 years and thanking Rowan county and the many civic, government, church, business and professional groups and individuals, past and present, for their interest and support.

The Commissioners met with various department heads to discuss legislative matters prepared by NCACC that would be of particular interest to Rowan County. The following were discussed.

Public Health-Bert Hawley

- a. For additional appropriation of state monies for aid to county health programs with minimum state control.
- b. For legislation appropriating state funds to UNC Board of Governors for research into alternate methods for individual wastewater disposal systems and legislation on a statewide basis to allow development and installation of "individual wastewater treatment systems" to meet public needs for disposing of household waste while protecting the public health.

Land Use: Ray Hayworth

- a. For enactment of legislation establishing a state land classification system with sufficient state appropriations to provide financial assistance to all counties in the preparation of land classification plans.

Mental Health: Larry Parrish

- a. For legislation to enhance the authority of county commissioners in local mental health administration.
- b. Resist efforts to make mandatory the provision in the general law requiring the expenditure of 7% of the profits of ABC systems for education on the excessive use of alcoholic beverages and for the rehabilitation of alcoholics.
- c. Resist changes in the use of funds coming from the \$.05 bottle tax on alcoholic beverages.

Social Services: Edwin Koontz

- a. For reenactment of the closed-end budgeting law.
- b. For the state providing 50% of the non-federal costs of administration of all social services.
- c. Resist legislation to provide that “welfare fraud” of an amount in excess of two hundred dollars be a felony.
- d. For legislation which would allow the granting of temporary custody of children in need of protective services to Magistrates when District Court Judges are unavailable.

Crime & Public Safety: Sheriff Stirewalt

- a. Resist legislation providing use of county jails for convicted persons sentenced to a term in prison.
- b. For legislation changing penalty on conviction of the crime of robbery with firearms and breaking and entering to provide that the sentence imposed for violation of such crimes not be reduced by parole, probation, suspended sentences or other judicial or administrative procedures.
- c. For legislation to increase death benefits paid for law enforcement officers death incurred in line of duty from \$10,000 to \$20,000; and total amount payable from \$25,000 to \$35,000 and these increases funded by the State.

Taxation & Finance: Wallace Peeler

- a. Resist repeal of intangibles and inventory taxes without additional sources of revenue.
- b. Resist legislation which would change the present system of imposition of interest and penalty for non-listing of property and the authority for county commissioners to compromise taxes and penalty on such non-listed property.
- c. For legislation which would classify and exclude from the tax base “household personal property.”
- d. For legislation which would provide for a State Land mapping program to include “tax mapping” with state financial assistance to counties.

County Government Organization and Administration: Seth Murdoch

- a. For changing primary date back to May.
- b. For changing laws governing authority of county commissioners to restructure their boards to be same as authority of cities.

Transportation

- a. For legislation which would require that petitions for additions to the secondary roads system, paving, repair and upgrading of roads already on the system be presented to the State Department of Transportation and not local boards of county commissioners.

Public Education

- a. for legislation which would require all school boards to hold public hearings on the school budget after the appropriation to the school board has been made by the Board of County Commissioners. This is in conformity with the budgetary process for County Commissioners.

- b. For legislation eliminating appeal of disagreement between local school boards and county commissioners on the sufficiency of funds appropriated to school boards.
- c. For legislation to require any school property that ceased to be used for school purposes to be reverted to county ownership if originally purchased with county tax funds.

Planning & Development:

- a. Resist legislation requiring manufacturers and distributors of soft drinks and beer to charge a minimum refundable deposit on all such beverage containers.

Mr. Murdoch informed the Commissioners of a supper invitation from Rowe McNeely on March 7, 1977, at 5:45 p.m. The Agricultural Extension Service will prepare the meal and discuss their future plans.

Herman Beaver, Chairman Board of Elections, invited the Board for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on February 7, 1977, to discuss realigning precincts and voting machines.

Chairman Honeycutt appointed Mr. Steele and Mr. Smith to work with the county Manager to analyze the possibility of combining the Building and Electrical Inspection Departments into one department.

Mr. Mauldin and Mr. Steele were appointed by Chairman Honeycutt to talk with Judge Seay, Judge Frank Montgomery and Francis Glover, Clerk of Court, to determine what their recommendations and needs are concerning the renovation of the Courthouse.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Glenda Earnhardt, Clerk  
Board of commissioners