

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MARCH 7, 1977

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building, Salisbury, North Carolina at 1:00 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 opened with prayer.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mauldin, the minutes of February 7 and February 24, 1977, were unanimously approved.

A letter was received from Ray Hayworth, Director, Rowan Municipal and county Planning Board, requesting that a public hearing be set for April 4, 1977, to revise the local legislation relative to the Rowan County Planning Board. The revisions would cause the terms of office to expire on December 31 rather than March 31 and would provide for Planning Board representation at large. Upon a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Steele, the hearing was authorized.

Piedmont Natural Gas Company informed the County that our gas has been restored to full service and appreciated our efforts in conservation and urged us to continue the practice. The County Manager informed the Commissioners that the thermostats would remain the same as they were during the emergency. He also stated that normal work hours have been resumed as of today.

Mrs. Jean Ramsey, Register of Deeds, requested that the Commissioners approve the incorporation of grantor and grantee indexes from 1921 through 1937 into a set of indexes from 1860 to 1937. She also requested permission to destroy the 1921-1937 books. Mr. Steele moved that these requests be granted. Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wuamett, Chairman Board of Elections, requested that the Commissioners consider the purchase of 45 voting machines at a cost of \$146,527.50. Mr. Smith suggested that a meeting be set up with salesmen from both companies that had submitted bids in order that the Commissioners could evaluate both types of machines before making a decision. The County Manager will make the arrangements and notify the Commissioners of the time and place.

The following road petitions were approved for submission to the Department of Transportation upon a motion by Mr. Mauldin, seconded by Mr. Steele.

1. Portion of Kimball Loop, SR 1218
2. Park Villa Road
3. Gaskey Road Extension

Glenn Trexler gave the following report on tax collections for the month of February, 1977:

Rowan County	\$93,091.89
Salisbury	25,566.37
East Spencer	2,481.12
Kannapolis Sanitary Dist.	1,894.05
Mt. Mitchell	242.87
S. Salisbury	185.20
Poole Town	115.35
Franklin	261.74

Mr. Trexler showed the Commissioners samples of anew type tax bill he would like to implement. It would have a pre-mailer included which would preclude the purchase of and stuffing envelopes. It would also be pre-stamped and would not have to be run through the postage meter. This would allow the bills to be mailed immediately as they came off the IBM Computer. The cost would be more than the present tax bills and envelopes but would result in a great savings in labor and allow the bills to be mailed in a more timely fashion. The Commissioners agreed with Mr. Trexler and asked that he work out the details with Wallace Peeler and Jim Sides.

Raymond Moore of AMMI, Inc. requested that the Commissioners add heating and air conditioning inspections to the County Inspection Code. Mr. Bill Leonard of Owen-Leonard was also present. They felt that the citizens of the County were not getting proper installations which resulted in mechanical problems, heat loss and unnecessary expenses. They also felt that they, as reputable, licensed contractors were cutting corners and not using the materials required for a given job. Mr. Steele and Mr. Smith will investigate the possibility of incorporating this inspection with our other programs.

Wendy Vaughn, EMS Administrative Assistant with the Council of Governments, presented a grant application for 1203 funds for Region F. This application includes funds for COG personnel and their services as well as specific equipment for each local government. Upon a motion by Dr. Wear, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Commissioners endorsed this grant application.

Upon a motion by Mr. Mauldin, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following new personnel were approved:

Julia Kesler Brown- Social Services \$743/month effective 2/1/77
Hoyle Ray Bost- Sheriff's Department \$638/month effective 2/3/77
Martha W. Brown- Clerk \$436/month effective 1/31/77
Pamela M. Ribelin – Key Punch Operator \$415/month effective 2/21/77
Ida J. Dorriss-Clerk Typist III \$565/month effective 2/7/77

The following refunds were unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Dr. Wear:

Bill Sides - \$5.00
Sides Construction Company - \$33.30
Marvin E. Johnson \$10.00

The following bids were received for autos for the Sheriff's Department

2/9/77, for two autos with trades:

Aaron Chevrolet	\$8,632.59
Wallace Motors	7,957.82

2/25/77, for one auto:

Aaron Chevrolet	\$5,111.00
City Motor Company	5,032.18
Wallace Motors	4,778.91

Dr. Wear moved that Wallace Motors, the low bidder in both cases, be awarded the bid. Mr. Steele seconded with unanimous approval.

Lt. Ed Haupt, Sheriff's Department, presented an approved LEAA grant contract for communications for the Sheriff's Department. The federal share being \$24,480, state share \$1,360 and the county's share \$1,360 for a total of \$27,200. This money will be used to purchase two new repeaters, one control station and modification of existing equipment for multiple tone operations. Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Smith, Chairman Honeycutt was authorized to sign the contract.

Lt. Haupt also presented the continuation grant application for the final year funding from LEAA for the Juvenile Officer program. This grant is for a total of \$13,404. The federal share being \$3,351, state \$670 and County \$9,383. Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Mauldin, this grant application was approved. Lt. Haupt was instructed to prepare a summary of the Juvenile Officer's work load and need.

Sheriff John Stirewalt requested that the Commissioners consider the approval of two additional matrons for the jail. At the present time, there is no matron on the third shift and when either of the two now assigned are sick or on leave, there is no coverage during their absence. One Superior Court Judge refused to sentence a female to the jail because of the lack of coverage. The State jail inspector made a notation on his last report concerning this matter. Mr. Mauldin felt that the Sheriff should take a good look at all his personnel and see if some changes could be made to remedy this situation. Chairman Honeycutt asked Mr. Mauldin and Mr. Steele to work with the Sheriff and made a recommendation.

Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor, advised the Board that the Board of Equalization and Review should meet next month and that he needed to advertise the notice of meeting. Mr. Smith moved that April 4, 1977, after the Commissioners meeting, be set as the time to convene the Board of Equalization and Review. Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

Fred Shipton, Salisbury Fire Chief and Larry Gobble of the Fireman's Association told the Commissioners that there is a problem dispatching rural fire departments from the city fire station. Chief Shipton said he has no regular dispatchers and that firemen take turns at two hour shifts manning the radio. He said they did not know the various areas of the County and had no incentive to learn them. The City is planning on hiring two full time dispatchers and requests that the County pay for two additional dispatchers in order to give full time coverage. These personnel could then become familiar with the County and ensure that rural departments were dispatched to the right place. The cost of the County would be about \$15,000 a year. Mr. Smith suggested that a meeting be set up with the City officials to discuss the matter.

Mrs. Lou Clement, Chairman of the Salisbury-Rowan Council of the Arts, and members, Mrs. Patsy Rendleman and Mrs. Eleanor Swaim, requested that the Commissioners pledge \$2,500 along with the City of Salisbury in order that they may apply for matching funds from the NC Council of the Arts to meet the budget they have set for FY 78. They discussed the work that the Council will be doing and what their budget entailed. Mr. Smith moved that \$2,500 be set aside for this purpose provided the City of Salisbury grants them \$2,500 and that they receive their charter from the State. Dr. Wear seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch gave the following interest report as of February 28, 1977:

General Fund	\$58,824.63
Revenue Sharing	14,751.84
Debt Service	<u>3,855.12</u>

Total

\$77,431.59

The Commissioners were informed that the grant for the Rowan Council on Aging had been cut \$2,519.14 thus necessitating a five month program instead of the planned six month program.

The County Manager told the Commissioners he had been in contact with Postmaster Paul Hinkle concerning the possible use of the second floor of the old Post Office. A meeting of the building committee and Mr. Hinkle was set for 10:00 a.m. Thursday to discuss this matter.

The County Manager briefed the Commissioners on the CETA title II and title VI jobs programs operated by Rowan County.

Chairman Honeycutt briefed the Commissioners on his visit with the Governor along with the Commissioners from all of the counties in the state on Friday, March 4.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Glenda Earnhardt, Clerk
Board of Commissioners