

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED SESSION
JULY 18, 1977

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 Rufus H. Honeycutt, Hall Steele, R. L. Mauldin, Paul S. Smith and Dr. John Wear.

Chairman Honeycutt called the meeting to order and welcomed Representatives Neal Smith and Robie Nash and Senator Jack Childers.

Representative Nash said there were approximately 1,600 House Bills and about 920 in the Senate this session. About half of them passed.

The Representatives and Senator gave a brief resume of the 1977 General Assembly:

1. There will be big changes in the mental health program coming up.
2. Counties will authority to issue bonds to do road work in old subdivisions.
3. House Bill 522 concerning open meetings was discussed
4. The Governor will have authority to appoint new Superior Court Judges.
5. The high cost of Medicaid was discussed. A legislative Study Committee has been formed to try and find an answer to this problem. Dental care has been decreased.
6. Unemployment insurance will be extended to include all public employees beginning July 1, 1978. No additional appropriations will be required until 1979. There will be three ways counties can pay this bill:
 - A. Percentage rating-build up a reserve.
 - B. Unemployment Security Commission
 - C. City and County can go together on bill.
7. Teachers and state employees are getting a 6 ½% salary increase
8. Community based alternatives to Training Schools. The whole are of juvenile court has been transferred to human resources.
9. A study committee on Centralina Council of Governments has been formed to see whether this organization is worthwhile.
10. Health Home Services- Rather than placing an elderly person in a nursing home, this service encourages that person to stay at home, if possible, and receive assistance there. Rowan County is one of twelve counties that does not participate in this service.
11. Consideration is being given to changing the way DOT money is allocated to counties for unpaved roads.

Allen Paul, State Department of Cultural Resources in Raleigh, brought the Commissioners up to date on the status of the plans for a Transportation Museum at the old Spencer Shops in Spencer, North Carolina.

Mr. Paul said an extensive study is now being conducted on plans for the development of the museum and it should be completed sometime in April. He pointed out that efforts will be made to secure a federal grant for the project which when completed is expected to attract at least 5,000 visitors a week to Spencer.

The Southern Railway system has agreed to deed to the State of North Carolina three buildings and about four acres of land for the site. Plans also include the purchase of approximately 10 additional acres giving the site a total of around 15 acres when completed.

Mr. Paul showed maps and overlays of the property to be acquired.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele and seconded by Mr. Mauldin the Chairman was given the authority to sign a lease between Thurman Carlie Williams and wife, Mary, and Rowan County for a ten year lease on a tract of their land on which to place a 150 UHF repeater station tower and transmission lines for use by the Sheriff's Department.

The following members of the Board of Elections were present: Herman Beaver, Chairman, Ed Haden and Elizabeth Wuamett.

Seth Murdoch, County Manager, brought Commissioners up to date on what has transpired concerning voting machines. Computer Elections Systems has offered Rowan County a special price on their voting machines during the month of July, 1977, if Rowan County's order goes in with the one placed by Guilford County.

Cash cost of voting machines if bought in July, 1977 - \$151,520
Delayed payment cost including interest of \$9,126.80
if bought in July, 1977- \$160,656.80

Dr. Wear moved that nothing be done about voting machines at this time; that the County not buy the system on time and that additional funds be included for the machines in the budget next year. Mr. Smith seconded. Dr. Wear and Mr. Smith voted yes. Commissioner Mauldin and Steele and Chairman Honeycutt voted no.

Mr. Steele moved that the County advertise for bids for voting machines sufficient to cover all precincts in Rowan County in accordance with specifications to be prepared by the County Manager; the bids to be opened at the next regular

meeting of the Board. Mr. Mauldin seconded. Commissioners Steele, Mauldin and Smith voted in favor of the motion and Dr. Wear opposed it.

Upon a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mauldin, a 1977-78 budget amendment for the Council on Aging was unanimously approved. (Attached)

Upon a motion by Mr. Mauldin and seconded by Mr. Smith, a budget amendment resolution for use of the remaining revenue sharing funds appropriated in 1976-77 was approved.

A bill from Kluttz & Hamlin was received in the amount of \$429.50 for examination of title to property purchased from George C. Eller and wife, Ethelda Jo, and for recording deed. This is the 107 acres purchased for use by the county landfill and airport. A bill for lawyers title insurance for the property is \$130. Dr. Wear moved that these two bills be approved for payment and the funds to come from contingencies. Mr. Steele seconded with unanimous approval.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Earnhardt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners