

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 3, 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 H. Honeycutt, Hall Steele, R. L. Mauldin, Paul S. Smith and Dr. John Wear.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Mauldin, the minutes of September 6, 1977 were unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Mauldin, a resolution paying tribute to Mr. John P. Pendleton upon his retirement from the Rowan County Health Department was approved. Mr. Pendleton was present to receive this resolution, along with Mr. Herbert Hawley, Director of the Health Department. Mr. Pendleton was also presented with a lapel pin noting his 15 years of service to the County.

The following road petitions and work orders were approved if money is available upon a motion by Mr. Mauldin and seconded by Mr. Steele:

Dead End Road off Gheen Road- scratch work order in the amount of \$5,000 to grade, drain and stabilize the road to bring it up to minimum standards for addition.

Dead End Road off Unity Church Road – scratch work order in the amount of \$4,000 to grade, drain, stabilize and correct drainage.

Grove Street Extension in China Grove – add to state system.

A letter was received from O. D. Rentz, District Engineer, Department of Transportation, concerning alternate routes for Camp Road to the new prison complex site, Mr. Rentz stated that the three proposed alternate routes had been considered and property owners involved had been contacted and neither of them will grant or sell the right-of-way necessary for the proposed routes. Therefore, it appears there is no other recourse but to follow the original or present route and widen the present pavement on Camp Road.

The Commissioners received a letter from Chief John L. Thomason, Franklin Volunteer Fire Department, inviting them to open house for their new building on Sunday, October 9, 1977, between 2:00 and 5:00.

Upon a motion by Mr. Mauldin and seconded by Dr. Wear, Salisbury-rowan County Airport will be proclaimed "Swaim Field" as per a letter of request from John Frazier, Jr., Chairman, Airport Board.

The Airport Board is planning an open house to present Clay Swaim, who has been with the airport since its beginning, with a plaque and several words by Chairman Honeycutt and the Mayor of Salisbury expounding Mr. Swaim's many years of service and dedication to the promotion of aviation in this area. No date for the open house has been set.

Mr. Smith suggested that a large sign showing the location of the airport is needed on Highway 29 and I-85. Other Board members supported this idea and Mr. Smith will get in touch with the Aeronautics Board and the Department of Transportation to inquire about getting some signs and having them put up.

Dr. Wear reported on a meeting he attended with dissatisfied residents of Bringle Ferry Road where heavy highway construction has been going on.

Upon a motion by Dr. Wear, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following two gentlemen were appointed to serve on the Tri-County Mental Health Board of Directors to replace Dr. Winfrey Whicker and Joe Blake:

Chip Bridges
Jim Freeman

Glenn Trexler, Rowan County Tax Collector, reported collections for September, 1977, were \$584,298.

Seth Murdoch, County Manager, reported interest on General Fund for September 30, 1977 as \$18,488.76.

Larry Crowell, attorney at law, representing Otis Lee Ragan, Sr., petitioned the Board to close a portion of Vista-View Drive in Belle-Meade subdivision pursuant to General Statutes of North Carolina 153A-241. Mr. Crowell stated that this road has never been accepted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation and that the closing of the road would not be contrary to the public interest, that no individual owning property in the vicinity of the road or subdivision in which it is located would be deprived of reasonable means of ingress or egress to his property.

The Board advised Mr. Crowell that the opinion of the District Engineer at the Department of Transportation would be considered before any action is taken on this proposed order.

Mr. Smith moved to hold a public hearing on the closing of Vista-View Drive at the November 7, 1977 meeting of the Board. Dr. Wear seconded with unanimous approval.

An add will be run in the newspaper giving notification of public hearing and Mr. Crowell was instructed to send a registered letter to all property owners and occupants of Vista-View Drive and adjoining road, Moore Drive, advising them of the public hearing.

Joe Hales, President, International Systems Inc. was present to explain his company's Community Assistance Program. This program incorporates a proven systematic approach to the business of matching local needs with available federal funding sources. He explained how the federal grant assistance program works and stated that if the program does not generate Rowan County revenues in excess of their \$15,000 annual service fee, they will guarantee to refund the difference. ISI does not usually do the actual grant writing but will give proper procedural guidance as well as help in acquiring any forms needed and guidance in filling out the forms. But, if an application is too complex or too time consuming, ISI will take over the application in its entirety on a job-cost basis.

Chris Mogensen, Conservation officer, North Carolina Department of Commerce, showed a slide presentation entitled, "Local Government Energy Management" with ideas on how to save energy and cut costs. He handed out booklets entitled "A Guide to Reducing Energy Costs" and "NC Energy Conservation Plan".

Mr. Morgensen said the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (EPCA) authorizes the Federal Energy Administration (FEA) to establish guidelines and procedures for the program and to grant financial and technical assistance to states in support of their energy conservation plans. Congress has authorized the appropriation of \$25 million FY77 for implementation of state plans. North Carolina is expecting to receive at least \$500,000 of this appropriation. Mr. Morgensen said he could not guarantee whether or not they could get the County any of the conservation grants, but there is no fee for the service.

Dr. Rodney Justin and Sara Potts from the Sheriff's Department, came before the Board to discuss the Contract for Professional Services for the Jail Medical Plan. This proposed contract is in compliance with the State Board of Health, as well as the Jail and Detention Services branch in Raleigh and is modeled after those between the State prison units and their respective physicians. The contract is

between Rowan County and Dr. Rodney K. Justin and his assistant James L. Wells, PA.

The amount required for this contract will be \$7,000 annually and will provide full and complete care twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week for persons in jail and will enable the jail to purchase medicine and other drugs at less than half the price we are now paying.

Dr. Wear moved that the contract for professional services for the jail be accepted. Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

Dr. Justin said Bill Mills, C & M Ambulance Service, has purchased a station wagon to be used as an emergency vehicle but before it can be put into service a radio and defibrillator are needed. The defibrillator to be repurchased by Dr. Justin if the program does not work out.

The Board will get back with Dr. Justin after checking with Centralina to see if there are funds available to purchase any emergency equipment.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele and seconded by Mr. Smith, the following persons were appointed to serve as trustees for the fireman's relief fund for their departments:

Scotch Irish – Clyde Lippard, Jr. and Earl Kinerly
Cleveland Community – W. F. Wilhelm and Richard Current
Enochville – Melvin Wilson and Charlie Bostic
Ellis Cross Country – Billy R. Freeze and Johnny Eagle
Bostian Heights – John Cress and Harry Overcash
Locke 1 and 2 – Robert D. Sloop and Clinton D. Turman
S. Salisbury – Ben Post and Bill Brown

Robert Gunn, Fire Marshall and Hurley Bowers, Building Inspector, presented an ordinance adopting a fire prevention code prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire or explosion and establishing a bureau of fire prevention and providing officers therefor and defining their powers and duties. This will provide additional safety standards in conjunction with the building code.

Upon the County Attorney's approval, Dr. Wear moved to adopt this ordinance and Mr. Smith seconded with unanimous approval.

After further discussion, Dr. Wear moved to adopt the State Building Code of 1967 with all its amendments for Rowan County. Mr. Smith seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Smith moved to make the State Building Code amendments regarding heating and air conditioning and mobile home tie downs to become effective as of January 1, 1978. Mr. Steele seconded with a unanimous vote.

Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor, gave the 1977 valuation report. (Attached)

Mr. Peeler handed out a list of tax districts in Rowan County and a list of property owned by the County for the Commissioners information.

Mr. Peeler showed the Commissioners a computer card representing how the County hopes to go in setting up a tax appraisal system with the IBM department. He said the system they hope to get is the one Burke County already has programmed. Jim Sides, Data Processing Supervisor, has told Mr. Peeler he can put the Burke County system on our computers but some one else will have to work out the appraisals according to our standards.

He also asked for an additional employee suggesting that perhaps a CETA worker could be hired to help in the Tax Supervisor's office.

Larry Parrish, Director, Tri-County Mental Health Complex, was present to introduce Dr. Treavor Williams, their new psychiatrist. Dr. Wear, Chairman of the Tri-County Mental Health Board, welcomed Dr. Williams and commented on how fortunate the Mental health Complex was to have a man of Mr. Williams' caliber working at their facility.

Sonny Epting, Salisbury/Rowan Chamber of Commerce, invited the Board to meet with the Chamber, City officials and representatives of Reynolds Metals Development Corporation to discuss city and county participation in installing sewer lines from the city lines out to the proposed site of the Reynolds Company on Highway 29.

The meeting is to be held Wednesday, October 5, 1977 at 11:30 a. m. in the Chamber Office.

Shirley Porter, Secretary, Rowan County Council on the Status of Women, reported on their upcoming project "Breast Cancer in Women" to be presented at the city high school and each of the county high schools.

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

Lottie B. Moore – Jail Matron - \$503/month effective 9/1/77

Rosalyn Bernadine Rogers – Social Worker II \$948/month effective 8/22/77

Barbara C. Osteen – Eligibility Specialist \$791/month effective 9/9/77
Lee Frick – Deputy Sheriff - \$702/month effective 9/5/77
Pauline Stone – Jail Food Service \$479/month effective 9/5/77
Susan Hall-Register of Deeds \$457/month effective 9/6/77

Mr. Steele moved to approve the attached budget transfers from the Board of Education and Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

Upon a motion by Mr. Mauldin and seconded by Mr. Steele, Miss Marlyne Plyler was re-appointed to another term on the jury commission.

A 1977-78 budget amendment was approved to provide for the use of federal funds under Title II and Title III. The motion was made by Mr. Mauldin and seconded by Mr. Steele. (Attached)

Upon a motion by Dr. Wear and seconded by Mr. Mauldin, the Board approved a resolution requesting the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission to promulgate special rules and regulations with reference to safe and reasonable operation of vessels on the waters of High Rock Lake and Tuckertown lake in Rowan County, the pertinent substance of which proposed regulations is the full implementation of the Uniform Waterway Marker System. (Attached)

Approval was given for certain territories to be annexed into the Kannapolis Sanitary District upon a motion by Mr. Steele and seconded by Dr. Wear. (Attached).

A letter was received from Elbert McPhal, Jr., Chief, regarding the 200 man National Guard Armory in Salisbury. Bids have been received for the construction of the National Guard Armory. Contract amounts from the low bidders are as follows:

Construction:	
Barger Construction Co., Inc.	\$408,300
Plumbing:	
Pope Plumbing company	\$60,000
Heating:	
George B. Stevens Company	\$75,985
Electrical:	
Howard Electric Co. of Concord	\$39,960
Total Construction	\$584,245.

State and local shares will be split 50/50. The County has allocated \$39,000 for this project and the actual portion for the county is \$41,952.81 leaving a balance of \$2,952.81.

Mr. Steele moved to take \$2,952.81 from the 1976-77 revenue sharing contingency fund to pay the difference for the county's portion on the armory. Mr. Mauldin seconded with unanimous approval.

Lt. Col. McPhaul stated in his letter that although the total project cost is within the amount estimated, the site grading expense, in which the Federal Government will not participate, causes the amount of local participation to be slightly higher than originally anticipated.

A letter was received from John Ramsay, Architect for the remodeling of the courthouse. He suggested making the old Register of Deeds office into a courtroom. However, he is unsure as to the structural importance of the columns in that office and a wall that he would recommend removing. The previous architect will be contacted to determine if the columns and walls can be removed.

It was suggested that the property committee meet with Mr. Ramsay along with Judges Seay and Montgomery to review plans for renovating the Courthouse. No date was set for the meeting.

Dr. Wear invited the Board to attend an open house for the Tri-County Mental Health half-way house in Statesville on October 5-7, 1977.

Dr. Wear said he would like to review county owned property for a possible site for a half-way house to be located here in Rowan County.

The unsightly dumpsters located in Rowan County were discussed. Some of the dumpsters are in bad shape and are beyond repair.

A letter was received from W. B. Lawson, Chairman, Holiday Caravan, inviting the Commissioners to participate in the 1977 Holiday Caravan parade on Wednesday, November 23, 1977.

The location of the flagpole in front of the new county office building has been questioned. In a memo from Architect Doug Tennent, he stated that in a situation where people face people, the place of honor for displaying their flag is on their right. Therefore, when the American Flag is flown on the front façade of a public building, it is displayed for the people of the community and not for stone, brick and mortar.

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

Glenda Earnhardt, Clerk
Board of Rowan County Commissioners