

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 3, 1980

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 John Wear, Rufus Honeycutt, Hall Steele and Brad Ligon.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, the minutes of February 4, 8 and 14th were unanimously approved with one correction. On page 2 of the minutes of the February 8th, it should have stated that the statewide school building bond issue was approved by a three to one vote with Mr. Ligon voting nay.

Dr. Wear's opening remarks stated that anyone who wished to address the Board should request a spot on the County Agenda, rather than just speaking up whenever they felt like it in the course of the meeting. Commissioners meet to conduct business and decide issues and it cannot be done in an orderly manner if the people in the audience participate in the meeting. Mr. Ligon pointed out that this was the right of citizens to be able to express an opinion. Mr. Honeycutt said we would not deny anyone the right to be heard but we are not holding public hearings. Mrs. Helen Murray stated she had come twice to discuss land classification and Commissioners had tabled the discussion and had not gotten back to the issue. Dr. Wear stated that in the future he would be more careful to make sure that everything was covered.

A letter was received from William C. Irby concerning the business closings in the Kannapolis area. He also questioned why North Main Street had not been widened as previously planned. Mr. Honeycutt stated because of the necessary right of ways it was not feasible to widen the street. The money was reverted back to the State for other projects. Chairman Wear requested the County Manager respond to his letter.

Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector, reported tax collections for February, 1980 were \$234,822.87.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Steele the date was set for the first Monday in June, 1980 for the tax lien sale.

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele to approve the amendment to the floodway fringe ordinance. It was a three to one vote with Mr. Ligon voting nay.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt a joint resolution for the regional growth center designation for the Kannapolis area was approved. The vote was three to one with Mr. Ligon voting nay. The Kannapolis area application is a joint resolution with Cabarrus County. It would include Kannapolis, Enochville, Landis, two enumeration districts outside of Landis, the Landis northeast unincorporated areas, China Grove and China Grove's extraterritorial zone. Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Ligon to delay action on a similar resolution for the Salisbury area. A draft resolution would be needed and a better understanding on what implications a growth center designation and the Governor's balanced growth policy would have on this area.

A memorandum was received from Ray Hayworth, Director Rowan County Planning Board recommending that Mr. Robert Gunn, Rowan County fire marshall be designated to coordinate a preliminary inventory and investigation on existing conditions in Rowan County concerning road names and the development of an official road naming program establishing official names for all county roads and cost estimates for this project.

Mrs. Helen Murray requested to be put on the agenda for the next meeting to speak on the land use plan along with her investigations of criteria for the growth center.

Stamey Carter, Al Brandon from Sherrill and Smith along with Charles Sowers and Carl Hicks from Dixon, Odom and Company debated at length the merits of their proposals for the awarding of the contract for the County audit and budget preparation. Sherrill and Smith's bid over a three year period is a total of \$69,000, 1980- \$22,000, 1981- \$23,000, 1982-\$24,000. Dixon and Odom's bid over the same three year period is 1980- \$21,000, 1981-\$22,500, 1982-\$24,000, with a total of \$67,500. Sherrill and Smith has been preparing the County Audit for 33 years and had done untold hours of free work. Dr. Wear stated anyone who had done an audit and budget for an entity can do it more easily and economically. Mr. Ligon said Sherrill and Smith has charged the County a considerable amount of money. If the two proposals show equal service and equal qualifications he wished to go with the lowest bid. Mr. Steele made a motion to award the contract to Sherrill and Smith but withdrew his motion after Dr. Wear asked the commissioners to delay the final decision until a full Board was present.

Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor and John Patterson, Project Manager briefed the Commissioners on the County's current revaluation survey. The process involves revaluing property at the current fair market price. Land values will go up and some farm tracts may jump 700 to 800 percent. Land will only be taxed for the

use value if a special application is filled out at the tax office. This will result in deferred taxes but a lien will remain on the property for three years. If the property is sold within the three years the deferred taxes will be due and payable with accrued taxes added. If real estate values double and personal property and utilities go up then the tax rate will have to be set at 37% \$100 valuation to raise the same amount of revenue as the current 55 cent tax rate.

Doug Tennant, architect for the renovation of the old post office presented the Commissioners with a report on the post office progress. Mr. Tennant was asked to bring back to the Board recommendations on changes in the interior concerning ceilings and floors.

Soil Conservationist Lipe Barrier gave the Commissioners an up to date report on Soil Surveying. He stated it would give an inventory of land resources using a mapping system and classification of soils. It would benefit farmers, industry, home developers and planning agencies. It would give assistance in Erosion Control. Mr. Steele moved, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt to approve the County applying to the Soil Conservation Service for a soil survey of the County to be made at a cost of \$107,660 for five years. Sonny Epting with the Chamber of Commerce stated the Chamber would like to go on record endorsing the soil survey.

David Hall, Rowan County Farm Bureau spoke on behalf of the farmers as to the aid in Agriculture benefits the soil survey would produce.

Edwin Koontz who is the local coordinator of in-home service for the Department of Human Resources gave an inventory report from July 1, 1979 through February 29, 1980. This includes various programs, services, how many are served and the amount of funding provided. Mr. Murdoch has received information from the Centralina Council of Governments stating the in-home service would be coordinated and planned on a local level but assistance would be available through their office.

Mr. Steele moved, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt the approval of the Planning Document from the Rowan Council of Human Resources. The purpose of this Council is to explore unmet needs, avoid duplication of services and bring about a spirit of cooperation between the agencies.

A letter was received from Carl J. Stewart, Jr., State House Speaker, who is chairman of the study commission to study alternative methods of managing water in the state. He stated the study commission adopted a resolution opposing interbasin transfers and he does not expect any plan to be developed which would change the Riparian Rights Doctrine. The doctrine held that water is used only by people or governments that own property adjacent to a water supply.

Burley B. Mitchell, Jr., North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety sent a letter as an official transfer document at the request of our local Emergency Management Coordinator to transfer items such as cots, blankets, and generators to our area. These items have been stored in a state owned packaged disaster hospital.

A letter was received from Gilbert E. Mesimer, Mayor, Town of China Grover, concerning the branch library proposal. The Town Board feels there should be a branch library in the South Rowan area but would like to hold a public hearing of the residents in order to determine the desires of the area residents before committing any one specific location. Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Ligon and unanimously approved a public hearing. Mr. Steele and Mr. Smith are to attend a Board meeting in Landis and were requested to find out a convenient time and place the public hearing could be held.

A letter was received from Thomas Bradshaw, North Carolina Department of Transportation enclosing a schedule of 1980 Transportation Improvement Program public hearings. The meeting scheduled for our area is on March 27, 1980 at the Davidson Community College Auditorium. A request submitting a written list of the total state highway, airport, public transportation, bicycle and rail needs for the 1985, 1990 and 2000 periods at the Transportation Improvement Program hearings and any comments and judgements concerning North Carolina total transportation situation and problems.

Reba Gettys Hill, Public Participation Coordinator for the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development wrote a letter of appreciation to the County Manager for the three names for the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Yadkin Pee Dee level B study. They were as follows: Robie Nash, Hall Steele and Glenn Ketner, Jr.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Ligon a Proclamation proclaiming May 11, 1980 as Soil Stewardship Week was unanimously approved.

A request from Chief District Court Judge Robert L. Warren for an additional parking space for the Rowan County Magistrate was unanimously approved. The need had arisen as a result of having two magistrates on duty twice a week for small claims court.

The district meeting of the NC Association of County Commissioners has been changed from the County Courthouse in Concord, NC to the Agriculture Center Building West from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on March 12, 1980.

Mrs. Elmer Lagg requested the Commissioners attend a tea on March 28, 1980 in honor of Mrs. Edith Hinshaw, who is retiring after twenty two years of

service to Rowan County. The Commissioners at that time will present Mrs. Hinshaw with the County pin.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Ligon, a Proclamation was adopted declaring April 1st Census Day by the 1980 Census Complete Count Committee. The proclamation was unanimously approved.

March 3rd through March 9th has been designated as "Tornado Awareness Week" in North Carolina. A statewide tornado drill will take place on March 6th. The tornado drill will be in two parts:

- 1) a practice tornado watch will be issued by the National Weather Service.
- 2) A practice tornado warning will be issued.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ligon, seconded by Mr. Steele the following road petitions were unanimously approved to add to the system: Palomino road in providence Country, Montega Lane.

The following new personnel were unanimously approved by a motion from Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Ligon.

Marilyn Willett Peterson
PH Nurse Trainee
Hired 1/28/80
Salary \$840/monthly

Amy Lou Kniskern
Parks maintenance VI
Hired 2/4/80
Salary \$540/monthly

Ann T. Mathias
Associate Extension Agent 4-H
Hired 2/1/80
Salary \$562.50/monthly

Alice H. Shepard
Parks Secretary Assistant
Hired 1/21/80
Salary \$3.00/hourly

The County Manager reported the interest received through February 29, 1980 as follows:

General Fund	\$136,258.33
Reappraisal	11,413.20
Revenue Sharing	15,849.51
Debt Service	<u>750.19</u>
Total	\$164,958.31

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Ligon and unanimously approved the appointments to the Rowan County Nursing Home Advisory committee. They are as follows: Mr. John I. Steel, Wayne C. Simpson, Wiley I. Lash, Dorothy Ellis, Sara Rendleman.

The Rowan County Council on Aging recommended nominations of Addie Rhem Morris, Mrs. C.H. Watson and Dr. Sterling H. Whitner for the Region F Aging Advisory Committee. These appointments were unanimously approved by a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt.

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Ligon the reappointment of Mr. Steele to the County Board of Social Services to serve for three years.

Upon a recommendation by Mr. Steele, Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Ligon to request the state to reappoint Mrs. Nell Sowers to the Board of Social Services.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Steele the following extraterritorial members of the Spencer Board of Adjustments be appointed for new terms: W.L. Noles, Albert S. Stout, Ted K. Barnes, Jimmie Brown.

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Ligon to amend the ordinance of the Historic Properties Commission to include another member on the Board. A vote will be taken at the next meeting when a full Board will be present.

Chairman Wear asked that Mr. Setzer who has resigned from the Parks Commission along with Charlie Walters who had previously resigned be honored at the next Board meeting with a county plaque.

Chairman Wear recommended that Mr. Randy Bingham be appointed to the Parks Commission to represent the eastern part of the County. Mr. Steele moved, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt to approve the appointment.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Ligon, the following refunds were unanimously approved:

Tax Supervisor	David H. Allen \$21.59
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John L. Williams \$30.66

Tax Collector

John L. Blackwell \$100.16

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele the approval of a change order for the new addition to the concession stand at Dan Nicholas Park. The installation of a new asphalt shingle on existing building for \$294 - \$696.52 contingency allowance leaving the amount of \$402.52.

Chairman Wear requested that the proposal for a State Park in Davidson County be voted on at the March 18th meeting.

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Ligon to amend the contract between Rowan County and the Scotch-Irish Fire Department to read as follows: This contract shall extend for a term of twenty years from the date of the Farmers Home Administration loan closing and may be reviewed and extended for such term or terms as may be agreed upon by the parties hereto. It was unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, the following transfers were unanimously approved:

Health Department \$100 from 4651 to 4645.

Mr. Ligon moved, seconded by Mr. Steele to approve \$3,125 for a survey of Historic Properties if the city would match this amount. This \$3,125 would come out of contingencies. These funds would match a \$7,000 grant from the State.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret B. Ireland, Clerk
Rowan County Board of Commissioners