

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 8, 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, Hall Steele, Rufus Honeycutt, and Paul Smith.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Smith, the minutes of March 3 and 18, 1980 were unanimously approved.

Chairman Wear on behalf of the County Commissioners read two resolutions and presented plaques in honor of two outgoing members of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Charlie Walters and E.L. Setzer. Chairman Wear praised Mr. Walters for his faithful, dedicated service and support of the Park. He praised Mr. Setzer as a great outdoorsman and craftsman. He had carved and donated totem poles to the park. Mr. Setzer was also responsible for setting up the Family Campground. Mr. Walter's and Mr. Setzer's influence and inspiration to others will continue to be felt by the people of Rowan County.

A letter was received from Phil Barton, Library Director inviting the Commissioners, County Manager and their wives to a tour of the recently rearranged library followed by supper. Mr. Steele moved, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved April 30th as the most suitable date for the occasion.

The County Manager reminded the Commissioners of the Agriculture Extension Program and dinner which will be held on May 5th following the regular meeting of the Board.

A letter of resignation was received from Jack Ramsey, Jr. from the Rowan County Planning board.

A letter was received from Jesse Hicks, State Conservationist in appreciation of the Commissioners interest and support of the Soil Survey Program. A cooperative agreement will be developed that entails the financial arrangement for the program and will be drafted some months prior to staffing for the board's review.

Mr. William Green, Executive Director, State Ports Authority in a letter to Chairman Wear stated he had been in contact with our planning department and would meet with them on March 26, 1980 to discuss the capability of North Carolina ports and the potential for growth.

Dave Graham, General Manager, Rowan County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board in a letter to the Commissioners encloses a memo from the President of the North Carolina Association of ABC Boards asking that the candidates in our area be made aware of the need for legislative action to increase the amount of money from ABC sales remaining in our local system.

A memorandum was received from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners informing the Commissioners of the annual conference being held from June 29 through July 3, 1980 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

A letter was received from O.D. Rentz, District Engineer, Department of Transportation advising a change in hours beginning April 26, 1980. The Division of Highway Maintenance Dept., Field Force will be working a ten hour four day work week. They will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and closed all day Friday.

A memorandum was received from Richard B. Hamilton notifying proposed changes in North Carolina Hunting and Trapping Regulations for the 1980-81 season. A public hearing in the District 6 area will be held in Albemarle at the Central Elementary School.

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt, the following road petition was unanimous approved: addition of .07 miles of Staton Place to the state system.

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt to delay action on the paving of SR 2028 requiring the property owner participation of Kimberly Court. Five persons had not paid and three persons would not sign the petition. There has been \$4,435.90 collected. Mr. Kluttz, County Attorney suggested that the property owners should be made aware of the expense and legal technicalities before rendering any decision by the Commissioners.

Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector reported tax collection for March, 1980 are \$164,946.51.

Mrs. Lou Clement appeared before the Board along with Mrs. Audrey Madden requesting Commissioners to include a total of \$10,000 in the County budget for the United Arts Council and four of its member organizations. An additional 3,000 will come from the NC Arts Council making the allocation \$13,000.

This will be on a matching basis with the city. Chairman Wear suggested Commissioners delay any action until budget time to see what funds will be available.

Mrs. Pat Whitman, Rowan County Housing Authority requested the Board to enter into a cooperation agreement for the modernization of 100 units located at Locust Street and West 22nd Street in North Kannapolis. Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele and unanimously approved the request. (Attached)

Robert Gunn, Fire Marshall on behalf of the Fire Districts requested the extension of the fire district boundaries. Mr. Steele moved, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt and unanimously approved. The official rating will begin as of May 1, 1980.

The following new personnel were unanimously approved by a motion from Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Steele.

William A. Wiseman
Parks Maintenance VI
Hired 3/8/80
Salary 3.11/hour

Tammy Lynn Horton
Community Health Assistant
Hired 3/10/80
Salary \$517/monthly

Reba A. Harris
Sheriff's Dept. Secretary
Hired 3/3/80
Salary \$567/monthly

Duard L. Gardner, Sr.
Deputy Sheriff
Hired 2/18/80
Salary \$755/monthly

The Commissioners received a request from Jean K. Ramsey, Register of Deeds to hire one college student as a fill-in employee for the summer months. Mr. Steele moved, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved the request.

A letter was received from Herbert Hawley, Health Director recommended the Commissioners approve the Dental Assistant position be graded the same for

the present but that the salary be set at \$7,405. This would be the 3rd step of grade 54. Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele to approve the recommendation.

The County Manager reported the interest through March 31, 1980 as follows:

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| General Fund | \$173,701.51 |
| Revenue Sharing | 21,138.67 |
| Kerr Mill | 687.08 |
| Reappraisal | 15,730.69 |
| Debt Service | <u>750.19</u> |
| Total | \$212,008.14 |

The reappointment of extraterritorial Planning Board member Harold Headon until February 19, 1983 for the Town of Spencer, was unanimously approved by a motion from Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Smith.

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to reappoint Hall Steele to the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee.

The Commissioners were asked for 21 nominations for the Board of Electors for the Southern Piedmont Health System Agency. Chairman Wear asked that each Commissioner nominate four persons with Commissioner Smith nominating five.

Bill Ryburn representing the farmers and landowners of Rowan County spoke to the Commissioners on the new law which will go into effect July 1, 1980 prohibiting the harvesting of foxes. Mr. Ryburn introduced a bill requesting a controlled season for the harvesting of foxes. Mr. Honeycutt made a motion to pass the bill but withdrew his motion when Mr. Steele requested a public hearing. Mr. Steele stated that both sides of this controversial issue should be heard. Chairman Wear set the public hearing for April 21, 1980 at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Community Building.

A special election for the Scotch-Irish fire district determining the question of levying and collecting a special tax on all taxable property for the purpose of providing fire protection was unanimously approved by a motion from Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt. (Attached)

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Steele an amendment to change the resolution creating the Rowan County Civil Preparedness office to the Rowan County Emergency Management Agency was unanimously approved. (Attached)

The change order No. 2 on the addition to the concession stand at Dan Nicholas park in the amount of \$345 increased the new contract sum to \$34,768.48. Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved the change order.

The bid for the amphitheater at Dan Nicholas Park went to J.H. Wilson, the low bid of \$33,136 with a motion from Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Steele. Other bids were as follows:

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| Cabarrus Construction | \$46,100 |
| A.L. Jarrell | 41,625 |
| Kannapolis Construction | 42,293 |
| McGee Contractors | 46,879.77 |

The bids for the Kerr Mill restoration Phase I are as follows:

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|-----------------------|----------|
| A.L. Jarrell | \$69,000 |
| Moretti Construction | 53,000 |
| McGee Contractors | 53,030 |
| Phillip Ellen Assoc. | 59,995 |
| Cabarrus Construction | 71,500 |

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele to award the low bid for the Kerr Mill restoration to Moretti Construction at the bid of \$53,000 less \$1,500 and total of \$51,500. This is contingent upon funds being available from the archives and history grant. The vote was three to one with Mr. Steele, Mr. Honeycutt and Dr. Wear voting for the grant and Mr. Smith voting nay.

Upon a motion by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Steele and unanimously approved Mrs. Amelia Watts as a new Home Extension Agent at the Agriculture Extension Service as of May 1, 1980.

The county Manager received a request from Jim Foltz, Director, parks and recreation to apply for a LWCF grant for the development of Sloan Park. The total cost of the project will be \$169,800, County share \$84,900 and LWCF share \$84,900. This request was unanimously approved by a motion from Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Honeycutt.

The following transfers were unanimously approved by a motion from Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Steele. (Attached)

Upon a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Smith the request from the County Schools for \$18,273.66 from interest income to go to the sewer system at East Rowan and \$1,979.80 to pay for the generator was unanimously approved.

Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele and unanimously approved the 1979-80 budget amendment resolution (Attached).

The County auditor recommended the public officials bond for the County Manger and Tax Collector be increased from \$75,000 to \$200,000 each. The prepaid four year premium would be \$2,309. The increase would result in an additional premium of \$1,202 over a four year period. Mr. Honeycutt made a motion to approve the recommendation seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved.

A meeting of the board of equalization and review was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. so Chairman Wear declared the Board of Equalization and Review opened.

After the business was completed Chairman Wear declared the Board closed and the Regular meeting opened.

Mr. John Stirewalt, Sheriff received an inspection report from Charles F. Hall, Head of Jail and Detention Branch in Raleigh asking for immediate action to correct deficiencies in the local confinement facilities. Four jailers are needed in compliance with the minimum jail standards for North Carolina. Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele to upgrade Wright Stirewalt to jailer on April 12th and hire an additional three by July 1, 1980.

The County Manager was requested to write Mr. Robert Stokeley, Operations Specialist in Raleigh that the Board is proceeding with the compliance.

Mr. Smith recommended to the Board that a Resolution be adopted and sent to our legislators stating the Commissioners feelings on the mandated laws being sent down from the State without sufficient funding. Mr. Smith stated he would draw the resolution up for review and it could be signed at the next meeting.

Tri-County Director Larry Parrish, Chip Bridges and Dr. Mary Sandler appeared before the Board on behalf of the detox center. Mr. Parrish explained to the Commissioners that Tri County has a \$100,000 operation grant for the Center but it must be spent by September 30th or be forfeited back to the State. In a meeting with the City Council, they voted against using the vacant fire station for the detox center as they planned to use it for a warehouse. Mr. Smith, who is on the Tri-County Board stated this would have saved the taxpayer \$100,000. If a site is not found in Rowan County the center would be located in Iredell or Davie County. Dr. Sandler presented the Commissioners with statistics showing that 77% of public drunkenness cases taken to the Rowan County Jail since January 1st were city cases thus attesting to the city's need for a detox center. Mr. Bridges stated he would like to see financial cooperation from the city on the detox center if a new facility has to be built. Commissioners all agreed a better understanding is needed between City

and County. A motion was made by Mr. Honeycutt, seconded by Mr. Steele requesting the County Manager contact the City Council for a time and place for a joint meeting between the two local governments. This was unanimously approved.

The County Manager requested Commissioners approval to go out for bids on local banks to handle County funds. Mr. Honeycutt moved, seconded by Mr. Steele to approve the request.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret B. Ireland, Clerk
Rowan County Board of Commissioners