

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING
JANUARY 12, 1981

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building, Salisbury, North Carolina at 7:30 p.m. The following members were present: Chairman Eugene McCombs, Rufus Honeycutt, Jim Sides, Hall Steele and Jim Cohen.

Chairman McCombs called the meeting to order and Jim Sides opened with prayer.

Additions to the Agenda included considering night meetings for the Commissioners as opposed to day meetings and the presentation of a donation to the park. Mr. Cohen requested that Mr. E.J. Faison be allowed to present to the Board a policy on purchasing for the Sheriff's department, but he never showed up.

Mr. Jim Foltz, Parks director and Mr. Curtis Graham, Chairman of the Rowan Parks and Recreation Commission appeared before the Board as requested by Commissioners at the last meeting on January 5, 1981 to present the Rowan/Cabarrus Park Project Proposal. Words have been added to the proposal by the Institute of Government concerning committee members. Cabarrus and Rowan Counties will each appoint four members. Mr. Sides spoke to Mr. Foltz again about the input citizens have on the proposed Park. Mr. Cohen said before allocating money he would like to see the possible need for the park and the draft with Cabarrus County. Mr. Sides made the motion to go along with the proposal in conjunction with the forthcoming draft with Cabarrus County. Mr. Honeycutt seconded. Carried by the Board.

Mr. Sides recommended Dallas Fuller and Tom Blackburn to serve on the Rowan/Cabarrus Park Board Project. Mr. Honeycutt recommended Carl Sloop, Jr. and Roy Deaton who represent the southern part of the county. Mr. Honeycutt made the motion to accept these four appointments with Mr. Sides seconding and the board voted unanimously.

Mr. Foltz then presented a \$14,000 donation to the Board from an anonymous donor to be used to complete a phase of work on the T.M. Stanback outdoor theater.

Rev. Reid White, President of the Salisbury/Rowan NAACP and Rev. Joseph Johnson, Pastor Soldiers AME Zion Church asked the Board to consider Mr. Queens list of names for appointments to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Board. Rev. White said the names represent a cross segment of Rowan County, both Black and White, republican and democrat. Rev. Johnson said the only alternative that we have is to come to the County Commissioners. "This is our Channel." "We just want to be represented to the extent we want to help the County Commissioners to make our Community better."

Mr. Cohen presented a road petition requesting that an additional .27 miles in length be added to the Collins Road. At the present time there are 8 occupied homes located on the road. Mr. Cohen made the motion to accept the addition with Mr. Honeycutt seconding. The board voted unanimously.

Mr. Murdoch presented a letter to the Board from Mrs. Ruth Trexler, Town Clerk of Granite Quarry requesting that Rowan County administer and enforce flood control measures in Granite Quarry's extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction. Mr. Steele made the motion for the county to enforce their Flood Control territory with Mr. Honeycutt seconding. The Board voted unanimously.

Mr. Clarence Kluttz, County Attorney, presented the Industrial Revenue Bonds Resolution for Huyck (now Scapa) Kern Rubber Company to the Board for their approval. Mr. Neal Francisco, a representative, explained environmental problems that would result from the chemicals, which was no different from any other Industrial manufacturing company. The state environmental resource board granted them permission to proceed. Mr. Honeycutt made the motion to pass the resolution with Mr. Steele seconding. Motion was carried by the Board. (Attached)

Mr. Murdoch presented a request to Legislators to include Rowan County in a special Brunswick County Bill concerning procedures in naming county roads. Mr. Honeycutt made the motion to put Rowan County on this bill for naming our secondary roads because a lot of them have the same names. Mr. Steele seconded the request. The motion was unanimous by the Board. (Attached)

Mr. McCombs talked with the Towns of Granite Quarry and Faith about the deputies who patrol their area. The Mayors thought that a contract between the towns had been signed. The Board agreed to allow the Sheriff and Mayors of both towns to negotiate a contract.

Tim Deal presented to the Board as an addition to the agenda, his views for Commissioners meeting at night. He felt like the meetings should take place when more people can attend. He does not think they should have to take any time off from their jobs. The question of when Commissioners meet should not be decided by partisan politics, Mr. Deal said. Mr. Sides said that seventy-five (75) people attending tonight did not come simply because he wanted them to. He moved that the meetings be changed to the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. of each month. Mr. Cohen seconded. Mr. McCombs said "we already voted this motion down once last week.

Do you think its proper to bring the motion back again?" "I'm not sure what's proper", Mr. Sides said but I think its what the people want. Mr. Sides said that people who voted in the November election were people who have never voted before and he believes that we are going to have more participation as soon as people get used to having to get on the Agenda. Mr. Honeycutt suggested a three (3) month trial might work and Mr. Newton Cohen from the floor suggested that alternating day and night meetings might be helpful for attendance. Neither of these suggestions addition to the motion. The initial proposal was voted down again 3/2.

Mr. Sides made a public apology to the Board for his actions at the January 5 meeting in saying that "I acted somewhat like a zoo I attended the other week."

The next item on the Agenda was Board appointments. Mr. Sides recommended his list of people for the Community Based Alternatives Task Committee. He withdrew some of the names and his final recommendations were: Adult volunteer, Alex Scott, Rev. Gary Blackburn, Minister, Jay Hampton, Youth Consumer, Karen Smith, Salisbury High school student, Gerald Rush, Attorney, Alan Schneider, Nazareth Children's Home, and Tammy Brandon, North Rowan High Student. Mr. Sides made the motion for these names to be accepted with Mr. Cohen seconding. All I's except one- Mr. Steele voted no. 4/1 vote.

Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Sides made the motion for Scotty Green to replace Roger Withers, Mrs. E.O. Norvell and Mr. Jake Walton to serve again for 3 years. Mr. Cohen seconding. Motion carried by the Board.

Library Board-Mr. Sides made the motion to appoint Lisa Miller to replace Dr. J.P. Johnson and Mr. Steele made the motion to appoint Eleanor Swaim to replace Mr. John Hall for a six year term. Mr. Cohen seconded both appointments. The Board carried the motion.

Airport Board. Mr. Honeycutt made the motion to appoint James Roland to replace Mr. Earl Wagoner, Mr. Stuart Snider and Mr. Ashley Roberts will serve another 3 year term. Mr. Sides seconded the motion. The Board carried the motion.

Historic Properties Commission. Four appointments were made. Roscoe Morgan to replace Mrs. John DeMarcus. Mr. McCombs said that Ms. Ida Duncan (deceased) should be replaced because her appointment will not expire until December, 1981. Mr. Sides made the motion for Dr. Marion Jones to replace the late Mrs. Duncan. Dr. Stiller was left on the board because she is familiar with Kerr Mill along with Ganelda Sowers. Mr. Side's motion also included that the Board accept Mr. Morgan, Mrs. Sowers and Dr. Stiller. Mr. Honeycutt seconded. 3/2 vote with Mr. Cohen and Mr. McCombs voting nay.

Board of Health- Mr. McCombs recommended Gladys Beaumont, Clark Coffin and Dr. Norman Sloop. Mr. Honeycutt made the motion for the board to accept these appointments with Mr. Steele seconding. The board voted unanimously.

Salisbury/Rowan Good Neighbor Council-Mr. Cohen said this Board had been inactive but its purpose related good ties. Mr. Cohen made the motion to nominate Mr. Phil Kehr. Mr. Sides seconded. Board carried the motion.

Rowan County Planning Board. Mr. Sides made the motion to nominate Mr. Earnest Bartlett to replace R.C. Jones and Mr. Howard Walters to replace Mr. H. Frank King. Mr. Cohen seconded the motion. The Board carried the motion.

Mr. Cohen made the motion to put a freeze on hiring and to let the Personnel Committee fill all vacant positions. Mr. Sides seconded the motion. Mr. Cohen's motion included that the Personnel Committee should "do an extensive study to see if we need to replace" the person leaving.

Mr. Sides said the Commissioners need to consider having only two (2) Commissioners serve on the committee because three (3) would constitute a quorum. He asked that Mr. Honeycutt step-down from the Personnel committee and that he and Mr. Cohen continue to serve on it.

Mr. Cohen also said in freezing hiring this would not apply to the Sheriff's Department and the Register of Deeds. Mr. Sides said general statutes permit the Sheriff to hire and fire at his pleasure. He did not explain the exemption of the Register of Deeds.

Mr. Steele said, "I think this could become a problem" that hiring "should be discussed"- that it is a "personal matter".

Mr. Cohen said, "I am confident this can take place without hurting service of the county."

Mr. Steele said that budget time will be here before we know it and that Commissioner will have plenty of time to study each position.

Mr. Cohen said, "I would not think about taking anyone's job between now and June. I just think we ought to freeze hiring."

Chairman McCombs said to Mr. Cohen, "you will have a hard time finding fat in the County budget," but Mr. Cohen said, "If there is one position to cut that is the one we can get rid of and save \$10,000."

Mr. Cohen's motion was defeated 2/3.

Mr. Sides said he had reviewed the River Deputy's budget with the County Manager and that when the final report for reimbursement is sent in that there should be approximately \$4,000 that it be transferred to the Sheriff's Department for continued funding of the River Deputy and that the difference between this figure and the \$7,163 requested then come from contingencies. Mr. Steele seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Cohen recommended that the lease agreement with Home Oil and Coal Company be terminated at the end of its current term and that the station be used to service County vehicles. He said that there would be a savings in purchasing bulk fuel at wholesale prices. The savings may not be realized at first but would be over a long term. Mr. Steele said that there was a six month termination clause in the lease. Mr. Cohen then moved that Home Oil and Coal Company be notified that the County would terminate the lease in six months. Mr. Sides seconded with unanimous approval.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Rowan County Board of Commissioners