

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 1982

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on September 7, 1982 at 9:00 A.M. The following members were present: Chairman Eugene McCombs, Rufus Honeycutt, Hall Steele, Jim Sides and Jim Cohen.

Chairman McCombs called to order and opened with prayer.

Chairman McCombs commented that he had sent a letter to the candidates running for County Commission inviting them to attend a Commissioners meeting and was happy to see Craig Barger, Dick Messinger and Jamima DeMarcus attending today's meeting.

Commissioner Honeycutt made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 2, 1982 as mailed. Commissioner Steele seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman McCombs commented that pertaining to the minutes of August 2, 1982, page 3 paragraph 11 where he said that the percentage of the registered voters signing the petition saying they wanted to hold another liquor referendum- instead of 15% he said that should be 25% of the registered voters.

Mr. Murdoch said in addition to the Agenda, to add Mr. Harry Welch, who might be here to talk about ABC Board operation.

Pertaining to the Monthly Reports, Commissioner Honeycutt said that Glenn Trexler and his staff should be commended on the work that they are doing. Commissioner Honeycutt was basing this on last year's tax collections.

Mr. Murdoch read a note from Charles Lomax, Special Populations Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department inviting Commissioners to attend a picnic on September 14, 1982 from 3:30 until 7:00 P.M. at Ellis Park for the Vocation Workshop people.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from the Holiday Caravan Committee inviting Commissioners to participate in the Parade on Wednesday, November 24, 1982. The parade will be in Spencer at 3:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M. in Salisbury. They asked Commissioners to let them know as soon as possible.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Glenn Bates, Cabarrus Transportation Planner, about the County's portion of monies which is a maximum of \$948. Some of it or all of could be in-kind services- so wait and see what he comes up with.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Francis Murdock, Vice-Chairman of Iredell Board of Commissioners about the N.C. Commissioners Association needing representatives on different committees. The committees are Taxation, Education, Humanities and General Government. If interested in serving on any of these committee, get in touch with him.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Ron Aycock about a Western Region F meeting which includes Rowan County. To be held on Thursday, September 23, at 7:00 at the Grand Smokey Hilton, Foxfire Room in Asheville. The reception will get officials together and discussion will be issues of County concern. If you cannot attend this one- please try to attend the one on October 12 at 7:00 in Raleigh at the Albert Coates Local Government Center. This will be a Central Region Meeting.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from William Roberson, Jr. Secretary of Transportation concerning the fall clean-up program to begin on September 11, 1982 and run through the 17th. Governor Hunt has requested that the first day of clean-up be designated to the Youth. Anyone interested in helping pick up call Harold Caudill, Agricultural Extension Office.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Clyde Fahnestock, Office on Aging with a second request to be able to purchase a typewriter. This request has been approved by the COG office. Ms. Lelia Phifer, Bookkeeper for the Aging Office was present to answer any questions. She stated that \$100 had already been spent repairing the old one. Commissioner Steele moved last month to deny this request, moved this time to approve it. Commissioner Honeycutt seconded for discussion. Commissioner Steele said that he was concerned about the money being turned back to COG. That we should expand and serve more people- that the present site was at capacity and that the present typewriter was real old. Chairman McCombs stated that he wanted to make sure that they were not jeopardizing the site for a typewriter, the vote was unanimous for the request to be approved.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Harvey Mathias, City Manager, concerning their Economic Development Department in assisting Rowan County with their economic developments and planning needs. Mayor Lash had discussed this with Chairman McCombs. Their staff will assist Rowan County when requested to respond to a particular need. They requested that this be done with the approval of the Rowan County Board of Commissioners with a letter of request. The Commissioners agreed that a letter from either Mr. Murdoch or Chairman McCombs to come from the Board as a whole would eliminate any misunderstanding.

Mr. Murdoch read a copy of a letter from Secretary of Transportation, Roberson informing the Commissioners that the money had been approved for extending the runway 800 ft.- Installing a T-hangar drainage system, reconstructing the access taxiway and putting up 825 ft. of security fencing along the North end of the Airport property. The Commissioners will have to provide 50% of the matching funds for these three improvements approximately \$277,000. Commissioner Sides asked how the County was planning to come up with its half of the funds. Commissioner Honeycutt said he and the Chamber of Commerce were trying to raise private capital. Commissioner Sides commented that he would oppose these improvements if the County would have to come up with the matching funds.

Commissioner Honeycutt said that there had been visible indication of the transfer of illegal contraband from the road to the runway. Someone had broken down the fence on the North end several times and pulled up a telephone pole that had been buried four feet into the ground. No arrests have been made yet, but the Sheriff's Department has been notified. Commissioner Honeycutt said without sturdy fencing, it would be easy for a plane to come in and unload illegal contraband.

Commissioner Honeycutt said in order for the airport to serve larger aircraft, these improvements will be necessary. Also, the county will receive a considerable amount in ad valorem taxes.

Commissioner Steele made a motion for the Board to concur with the Department of Transportation's recommendation to use the additional \$36,580 in Secondary Road funds allocated to Rowan County for 1982-83 to widen Grace Church Road, SR 1503 from 16' to 22' from SR1506 to Bridge at Grants Creek, mileage .90 mile and Rowan Mill Road, SR 1526 from 16' to 22' from US 29-601 Northwest for a distance of .50 miles. Commissioner Cohen seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against. (Attached)

Commissioner Cohen commented that the Board had voted to extend the driveway to Hardee's warehouse. He said he rode out there, but could not see \$12,000 worth of hard top. He was very upset about it and said that it was short ¼ of a mile. Chairman McCombs entertained a motion for Mr. Murdoch to get an account of this matter from the Highway Department. Commissioner Cohen made the motion and Commissioner Honeycutt seconded with unanimous approval.

Glenn Trexler reported total tax collection for August 1982 to be \$57,077.20.

Commissioner Honeycutt made a motion to authorize Mr. Trexler to collect 82-83 taxes. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval. (Attached)

Commissioner Honeycutt made a motion to allow Mr. Edwin Koontz, Social Services Director to reinstate fee schedule for non-welfare recipients who request services from the child support and enforcement unit of Department of Social Services. Commissioner Steele seconded with unanimous approval. The services include locating a child's father, attempting to establish paternity and setting voluntary support. This does not include bloodtesting. Mr. Koontz said their Board went on record approving this fee schedule. Chairman McCombs commented that the services will be used in finding husbands, collecting from him to provide this service- person who is requesting services will pay- apply fee schedule to determine how much they pay.

Mr. Koontz commented that the welfare program response from the community has been good. One employer said he had been deeply concerned about the program, that he was leery about it- but after receiving one of the workers, he was appreciative.

Chairman McCombs said to Mr. Koontz to eliminate anyone from the Welfare roll who did not want to work.

Commissioner Sides inquired about the Department of Social Services budgeted Eligibility worker's vacant position being filled. Mr. Koontz said it was filled by a clerical person who qualified. The position came open due to the process of having terminal installed for computer in Raleigh.

Mr. Harold Caudill, Agricultural Extension Supervisor asked to be allowed to use the money that Commissioners had allocated for a part-time secretary in his 82-83 budget. He stated that he had a secretary to resign the last of July and that his office was operating on one secretary short; and that position on the state level has been frozen. He has no state funds to hire a secretary. He also stated that he was reorganizing their Home Economic Program. Commissioner Sides said it would behoove us to allow position to remain frozen to deny Mr. Caudill's request and suggest that he use a worker on Mr. Koontz's workfare program, this was in the form of a motion with Commissioner Cohen seconding and the board voting unanimously. Commissioner Sides said if they grant the request, this would be subverting the budget tightening efforts of the state. Mr. Caudill commented that he had interviewed one of the workfare workers. That few of the mothers had clerical skills, and other staff members did not have the time to train them. Commissioners told him to work with Mr. Koontz on this matter.

Mr. Harry Welch, Chairman of the ABC Board told Commissioners that he wanted to see the records straight about the ABC Board- that it was set by the State- controlled by law, does not advertise- not open on Sunday and does not sell to anyone who is under 21 or intoxicated. It maintains limited hours and regulates

the amount anyone can purchase. Mr. Welch said he would be willing to donate his ABC salary if Commissioner Sides would donate his Commission salary- “ His is tax money, our is whisky money”

The Board took another vote on the two candidates nominated for the ABC Board. Commissioners Steele and Honeycutt voting for Paul Propst and Chairman McCombs and Commissioner Cohen voting for Mrs. J.F. Alexander. Commissioner Sides not voting. Since it was a tie vote, Paul Propst will remain. This will be taken up again next month.

Mr. Murdoch reported personnel changes:

Bobby R. Cartner, Sloan Park Attendant, \$3.78 an hour-new position- allocated in the budget.

Charles W. Howard- \$829 monthly and James E. Milton \$871 monthly. Mr. Howard is a Deputy Sheriff Dispatcher and Mr. Milton is a Deputy Sheriff Patrolman- both replacements. Mr. Howard is replacing Bennie Cook at \$871 monthly and Mr. Milton is replacing Vaughn Hatley at \$1171.

James Ray Goodman- Electrical Inspector in the Building Inspection Office at \$1015 allocated in the budget.

Elizabeth Ralston Social Worker II at \$1343 replacing David Rouche at \$1343.

Commissioner Steele made a motion that the personnel changes be approved. Commissioner Honeycutt seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides not voting.

Mr. Murdoch reported Interest through the end of August, 1982.

General Fund	\$77,857.86
Revenue Sharing	1,721.07
Reappraisal	<u>15.65</u>
Total	\$79,594.58

Mr. Murdoch reported refunds: Both from the Building Inspection Office.

William Earl Hill, Concord, amount of refund \$10- reason the electrician who obtained the permit decided not to handle the job.

Osborne Electrical Co. of Mocksville purchased a building permit- amount \$5.00. A permit had already been issued to Carolina Energy Efficient Homes.

Commissioner Steele made a motion that the refunds be approved. Commissioner Honeycutt seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Honeycutt made a motion to appoint Charles R. Deadwyler for a three year term to the Board of Health. Commissioner Steele seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman McCombs appointed Commissioner Steele to the National Association Sportscasters and Sportswriters Board.

Commissioner Honeycutt made a motion to let Fred Lee lease the property at the County Home provided that he make an effort to clean up. There is 2 ½ acres and a barn at \$110 a year. Commissioner Steele seconded with unanimous approval. Mr. Lee present at the meeting, said he would clean up.

Commissioner Honeycutt moved to give authority to let Doug Tennent, Architect, do the preliminary drawing for the renovation of the interior of the old P.O. Building. Commissioner Steele seconded. Commissioner Cohen said he voted against the renovation before, but has decided since that the County needed the building and voted for this time. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against. \$88,000 has been set aside for the renovation. Commissioner Honeycutt commented that the Aging Board and the Mental Health needed a meeting place.

Commissioner Honeycutt moved to allow the County to take title to property at 1127 S. Main Street to be used as a residential care facility or a halfway house for five alcoholics- providing that five liability policies are carried with the same restrictions provided by Tri-County Mental Health. Commissioner Steele seconded. The motion carrying with Commissioner Sides voting No. Tri-County will operate and maintain the house. The complex is not able to hold title to any property. The County holds title to Mahaley and shares the title to the detoxification center in Statesville.

Mr. Murdoch presented a 1982-83 budget amendment resolution from the Health Department for approval. Mr. Hawley also sent an explanation for each change. The department received more than what had been anticipated from the Federal government. Commissioner Steele made a motion that the budget amendment be approved. Commissioner Honeycutt seconded. The motion passing with Commissioners Sides and Cohen voting against and the Chairman voting I. (Attached)

Mr. Murdoch informed the Board of bids for three (3) paddle boats advertised in the Salisbury Post by the Parks and Recreation Department. They were from:

Max Still	\$225.00
Scott Mikeal, Jr.	\$300.00
Glenn Freeman	<u>\$129.88</u>
Total	\$654.88

Commissioner Sides made a motion to accept the high bids. Commissioner Honeycutt seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sides in discussion with the Commissioners about residents on Black Road complaining about the dust problem, stated that Isenhour Brick and Tile had met with persons involved and were trying to come up with a solution. Mr. Sides said the problem there has worsen- it is a severe dust problem and that the Board should be willing to move up that road in priorities. Commissioner Honeycutt said he would be willing to go along with the adjustments of priorities but said “we would be asking for problems.” Commissioner Cohen said it was a sad state of affairs if we can’t be flexible. Commissioner Sides recommended writing a letter to Mr. John Gallaher, Division of Highways, Winston-Salem, NC expressing the Board’s desire to help. The Board concurred with sending this letter saying that they will take any necessary steps in getting this road bearable for the people who live there.

Chairman McCombs informed the Commissioners of the tax review meeting in Wallace’s office Wednesday night. Since this night was not agreeable, he asked the Clerk to call and schedule another time.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to give authority to pay delinquent taxes on a piece of property that was being advertised to sell and so far, no bids have been received. This property being in South Carolina and called Foxtrot Ranchette. The taxes is \$46.69. Commissioner Honeycutt seconded the motion with unanimous approval.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners