

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 1982

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on December 6, 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.

Commissioner Honeycutt made a motion to approve the minutes of November 1, and November 15 as mailed. Commissioner Sides seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman McCombs stated that it was a pleasure to see so many attending the meeting. He said the only time we have crowds like this was when were discussing moving the Department of Social Services to the Old P.O. building or talking about spending money. He said, "It was indeed a pleasure having the visitors with us!" He stated that he wanted to thank three sets of people, the County employees, who were always there to help him, the County Commissioners for their patience and integrity and for those remaining here he wished them every success and to the citizens of Rowan County, he stated "thank you, and at some future time they might give him the opportunity to serve again."

Commissioner Honeycutt thanked the employees and Department Heads and its citizens for their help over the years and the County Attorney for "helping to keep up out of trouble", and to the County Manager who is usually a silent member, but one of our best assets.

Commissioner Steele recognizing the two outgoing Commissioners said, "I want to say thanks to two great men in Rowan County, Mr. Eugene McCombs and Rufus Honeycutt." He presented each of them with a plaque and a gift. Commissioner Steele said that this recent election was the first time in 24 years that Rufus Honeycutt has not been on the ballot in Rowan County.

At this time, Chairman McCombs adjourned the old board.

"Chip" Bridges, Tri-County Mental Health Board presented Rufus Honeycutt with a plaque for twelve years of service on behalf of the Board and staff.

Francis Glover, Clerk of Court, swore in the three Commissioners, Jamima DeMarcus, Harry Sifford and Hall Steele. Mr. Glove then swore in Jean Ramsey,

Register of Deeds. After the new Commissioners took their seats, the County Manager took over for the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the coming year. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to nominate Hall Steele for Chairman with Commissioner Sifford seconding. The county Manager asked for more nominations. Commissioner Sifford made the motion for the floor to be closed and for the Board to accept Mr. Steele with Commissioner Cohen seconding. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion for the 1st lady on the board and the second highest vote getter, Jamima DeMarcus to be nominated as Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Steele seconded and made the motion that the nominations be closed with Commissioner Cohen seconding. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting No.

At this time, Chairman Steele called for a short recess.

Chairman Steele called the meeting back to order and asked if there were any additions to the Agenda. There being no additions, he asked if there were any questions concerning monthly reports.

Chairman Steele asked the Commissioners to consider re-arranging or consolidating the monthly reports and also for them to think about the best means of giving the Department of Social Services more space.

Mr. Murdoch informed the Commissioners of a letter from Mrs. Nell Sowers, Department of Social Services Board Chairman regarding improvement of facilities- the need for larger and better-suited space for their multiple operation. Mrs. Sowers had enclosed copies of recent recommendations from the Division of Social Services in Raleigh. Mr. Neves, Regional Director, had suggested two solutions: 1) to utilize the entire space in the War Memorial Building, 1236 West Innes Street. 2) To move the Service Unit to the Federal Building and establish a County Social Services Program Administrator I position, which would also function as Assistant Director. Commissioners agreed to give this some thought.

Mr. Murdoch asked the Commissioners to think about a replacement for Mr. Paul Bernhardt who was our liaison for Rowan County during the International Year of Disabled Persons, 1981.

Commissioner Cohen reported four road petitions, Grand Canyon Road Extension in Green Acres Subdivision, has the required number of homes and meets the requirements for addition to the secondary road system. 2) Springdale Avenue Extension off Airport Road also meets the requirements of the Division of Highways. 3) Orchard Avenue Extension located off West "C" Street near

Kannapolis in Atwell Township and 4) Moorland Park Street in Moorland Park subdivision located off Concordia Church Road in Atwell Township. Commissioner Cohen made a motion that these petitions be approved. Commissioner Sides seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch reported that 250 road signs have already been installed and that the citizens were very appreciative. That they were using prison labor and on a good day could install 40 signs. They have 1400 signs left to be put up.

Commissioner DeMarcus stated that she lived on the southern end of the county and had heard good response from the installation of road signs.

Regarding Committee appointments: Commissioner Sides said that he would not be able to serve on the Community Service Council Board. That he preferred either the Social Service Board or the Board of Health. No one was appointed to take his place on the Community Service Council Board.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the reappointment of following officials: County Attorney- Clarence Kluttz, Tax Collector- Glenn Trexler, Clerk to Board- Brenda Honeycutt, County Manager- Seth Murdoch, Budget and Finance Officer- Seth Murdoch. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen commented that he would enjoy working with Commissioner DeMarcus on the Rowan Tech Board. Commissioner DeMarcus said that this would meet her approval. If one could not attend the meeting, maybe the other one could. (Attached)

Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector, reported total tax collections for the month of November, 1982- \$1,209,488.91.

Mr. Murdoch reported personnel replacements for the Health Department: Donna B. Poe- \$1,018 monthly- June Smith- \$1,795 Physician Extender- Sandra Long- Nutritionist- \$1,065 and Margaret Wilkerson- \$1,118.

Commissioner Cohen moved that the personnel replacements be approved. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford commented that June Smith- Physician Extender at the Health Department was not within the salary range. Mr. Murdoch said this was a part-time position and that she was compared to be the next thing to a Doctor. Commissioner DeMarcus said "like a physician's assistant."

Ella Hargett and Eliza Fields, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. appeared before the Commissioners requesting permission for the Infant Seat Program for Rowan County. Rowan Tech had declined to take the program. Ms. Hargette explained the need for these seats to the Commissioners. Commissioner DeMarcus saying that she made a motion to approve the program. Commissioner Cohen seconded. Attorney Clarence Kluttz expressed concern on the organization corporate status and liability insurance coverage. The County would have coverage in excess of \$2 million. He stated that the Board should defer this matter and let him look into it further. Commissioner Sifford said he had reservations as to whether it would be good for this chapter to handle this program; that it needed to be investigated by Attorney Kluttz that he wanted to see this program in Rowan County but wanted the chapter to be covered. Commissioner DeMarcus took back her motion and Commissioner Cohen his second to go along with Commissioner Sifford's motion to defer it for 30 days. Commissioner Cohen seconded this with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch reported Interest:

General Fund	\$169,432.92
Revenue Sharing	11,139.47
Reappraisal	<u>15.65</u>
Total	\$180,588.04

Mr. Murdoch reported refunds:

From Tax Supervisor's Office:

James Everette Hobson listed 2 tracts of land 1982 taxes. The City of Salisbury purchased 1 tract that was vacant property and they inadvertently sent the tax bill for his house and lot and paid the same- This was map 9 parcel 313- Map 9 Parcel 56 should have been paid. Refund \$104.40 to the City of Salisbury, North Carolina.

Dr. Alan F. Scott listed a boat in Rowan County and paid same for 1982. The boat is in Carteret County and the tax office there made him list it in that County for 1982. Refund \$40.80 to Dr. Alan Scott.

Mr. Murdoch reported 1982 tax prepayments:

Mary Love Adamson	\$1.17
Myrtle S. Allen	7.10
Mrs. Herman Barger	2.43
Robert Barrett & Wife	15.37
Mary L. Brockman	7.57
Maude P. Brown	13.66

Margaret R. Burnett	8.06
Grace W. Kirk & Husband Thomas	213.15
Jeanette Current	33.73
Ruth & Jeanette Current	156.24
Guy L. Deal	362.09
Guy L. Deal & Virginia	4.09
Oscar Deal	73.01
Frank D. Dunn & Wife	.46
Mary Holtsclaw & Sara Anderson	108.18
Margureite Feraldis	86.14
Mrs. JW Fink	11.53
Dorothy P. Fisher	.98
George A. Floyd, Sr & wife Desie	3.23
Donald Fries & wife	14.94
Walter C. Goodman	1.49
Harvey L. Hall & Wife	8.13
Mrs. Berdie S. Hendren	.54
Kay Y. Huddle & Wife	3.92
Elsie P. Karriker	95.09
Russell Kincaid & Wife	1.56
M.R. Lentz	60.92
E.M. Eagle, Jr. & Wife	68.27
Mrs. Jacob W. Lipe	3.34
Leo Lyerly Cabinet Shop	14.46
Willie H. Lyerly & Wife	16.58
Florence P. Miller	140.51
John R. Miller & Wife Katherine	63.47
Roy B. Miller & Wife	354.22
Mrs. Carrie Morgan	99.86
John S. Morgan & Wife	96.92
Margaret Owen	3.98
Mrs. Annie Owens	10.99
William Owens & Wife Annie	11.36
John W. Patterson	1.96
S. Wayne Patterson	34.01
Augusta Reitz	.73
Mrs. Clifford Richards	20.30
Addie K. Rufty	27.36
Esther Rufty	103.27
Esther Rufty	87.11
Nell Hartline Rufty	287.55
Oliver Rufty	142.51
Raymond W. Rufty	331.56
Mary A. Showfety	11.23

Florence Rufty Sifford	225.54
Walter Bennett Silliman II & Wife	2.79
Max B. Still & Wife Mary	2.50
Jack S. Upton	1.20
Mrs. William M. West	28.33
Glenn A. Trexler	.75
Helen B. Barker	.03
Mrs. Annie C. Bibb	.03
Annie E. Bostian, Heirs	.01
Alma P. Earnhardt	.03
Sara E. Frye	.03
Charles S. Heilig	.03
Ethel Young Jacobs	.03
Harry Bernard Julian	.03
Elbert W. Lewis & Wife	.03
Howard A. Loflin and Wife	.03
Dorothy B. Long	.03
Mrs. Edna C. McCall	.04
Mrs. Lois May Lamp Moore	.03
Donald W. Pierce	.11
Houston J. Sells	.03
Levata S. Shumaker	.03
Arthur C. Sigmon III & Wife	.03
Pink E. Tatum	.04
Elizabeth Savage Taylor	.03
Mrs. Grace B. Woodson	.03
John E. Flen and Wife	.03
Carl M. Huffine	.03
Nina Shuping Miller	<u>.03</u>
Total	\$3,487.35

Refund to William Edward Clawson \$6.00- He decided not to build a flue.

Refund to John E. Waller, Sr., Rt. 1 Woodleaf, \$5.00- He did not need the permit since his trailer burned down.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to approve the refunds. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch informed the Commissioners of a special service fee requested by the National Association of Counties (NACO) of \$552.50. Mr. Murdoch stated that it was a one time special service fee. He stated that their interim financial statement for the first eight months of 1982 verified that they had a \$2.26 million cash shortfall.

Commissioner Sides said that the error had been admitted in Mr. Murphy's letter (President/NACO) due to overspending on a new building. He said we were under no obligation to pick up this downfall. Commissioner Sides also commented that NACO was expected to raise its dues in the next billing period by 15%.

Chairman Steele said NACO as a strong lobby group was influential in its support of revenue sharing and workfare programs; and that Revenue Sharing might possibly be in jeopardy next year- it means some \$800,000 a year to the County. Commissioner Cohen said, "it would not break my heart when we lose \$800,000, when that money runs out is when you really start getting efficient government!"

Commissioner DeMarcus asked what our alternatives were, that we were not here to argue Revenue Sharing or Workfare.

Commissioner Sifford said we have to have lobbying efforts.

Commissioner Sides said if we support it- it is like a "slap on the wrist". That we are condoning something that should never have happened.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion not to participate with the advancement of our dues this year. Commissioner Sides seconded- not to send the \$552.50. The motion failing with Commissioners Sifford and DeMarcus and Chairman Steele voting No.

Commissioner DeMarcus asked "how do we maintain membership if not agreeing with this request?" Commissioner Sides said the County probably could still be a member of the organization without paying the special service fee. All 100 counties in North Carolina belong to NCAO.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve sending the \$552.50 to come from contingencies and to also send a letter stating our disapproval of the deficit. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Commissioners Cohen and Sides voting against. Chairman Steele voting for.

Commissioner Sides said sending a .20 letter can in no way convey my feelings. He said we should take a stand. That we were making a terrible mistake- just slapping them on the wrist for doing something wrong. That we were robbing the taxpayers- and we should not condone it.

Sheriff John Stirewalt and Lieutenant Sara Potts appeared before Commissioners concerning a personnel matter.

After much discussion concerning salary for Captain Glenn Sides who replaced the retired Captain C.M. Grant, and a voided motion made by Commissioner Cohen and seconded by Commissioner Sifford to move Captain Sides straight down the pay plan to (c) the Board made a unanimous decision to grant Captain Sides a salary of \$16,259 by July, 1983. Commissioner Cohen made a motion to give him "halfway between the old and the new pay plan"- In July the other half will be implemented. Commissioner Sides seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve Sheriff Stirewalt's request to hire Timothy Bost as a Lieutenant to replace Captain Glenn Sides. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval. His salary will be \$14,049.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to grant the Sheriff permission to hire a jail matron to replace Polly Stone who has been on extended sick leave. Commissioner Sides seconded with unanimous approval.

Paul Propst was reappointed to the County ABC board after a four month deadlock. Commissioners Sifford and DeMarcus voting for Mr. Propst and Commissioner Cohen voting for Doris Alexander. Commissioner Sides not voting.

Commissioners approved Mr. Murdoch's request of Holidays. Setting December 24 and 27th as Christmas Holidays and January 3 as the New Year's Holiday. Commissioner Steele asked the board to consider granting county employees Friday after Thanksgiving off next year. The city and state employees have that day off. The board agreed to give this some consideration at a later date.

Commissioner Sides moved to grant the low bid of \$9,728 from Foil Motors for Plymouth patrol cars. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval. City Motor Company bid \$9,793. These bids were for six full packaged police cars. The EPA ratings were: Plymouth- 18, Ford- 14- for big cars.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion that the board approve bonds for elected officials. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval. The bonds are:

Register of Deeds	\$25,000
Sheriff	5,000
Tax Collector	200,000
Seth Murdoch	200,000
Edwin Koontz	25,000
Rest of employees	20,000

Commissioner Jamima DeMarcus on behalf of Mayor Rudy Wise from Landis and Mayor Gilbert Mesimer from China Grove thanked the Commissioners for the new South Rowan Library.

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of Commissioners