

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 3, 1983

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on October 3, 1983 at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present: Chairman Hall Steele, Jamima DeMarcus, Harry Sifford, Jim Sides and Jim Cohen.

Chairman Steele called the meeting to order and Commissioner Cohen opened with prayer.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

As additions to the Agenda- Commissioner DeMarcus stated that she wanted to talk to Commissioners about a matter concerning "Driving While Impaired" and to give a report of the last meeting of the Rowan County Council on Human Services. Commissioner Sifford asked to discuss "Prioritization by County"- concerning bridges.

On Monthly reports – Mr. Koontz, Director of Social Services was present to answer any questions concerning his report and also to make a personnel request. Commissioner Cohen raised a question concerning the Infant Toddler Center. He asked if Mr. Koontz had any good news about it. Mr. Koontz said they had placed one more child in the Center. Commissioner Cohen said that one does not many any significant changes. Chairman Steele said the opening of private enterprises would be the best approach. Commissioner Sifford mentioned the need for the Clerk-Typist III position that Mr. Koontz had requested during budget proceedings and had been denied- and moved that it be approved now- at no additional county cost. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Commissioners Cohen and Sides voting against. Chairman Steele voting I. The total cost for this Clerk-Typist for the remaining nine months of this fiscal year is \$7.664.

Mr. Murdoch informed the Board that he had received an answer from Mr. W.V. Ritchie, North Carolina Department of Corrections concerning the possibility of getting Mr. Carl Sloop and Paul Canup certified to take prisoners from the local unit here out to work without a guard. Mr. Ritchie replied that this request had been approved- that a four to six hour course had been set up by T.L. Hooks, Rowan County Prison Unit- each will be authorized to supervise up to five inmates at one time.

Mr. Murdoch informed the Board that he had received an answer from the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, Mr. D. Rex Gleason, Water Quality and Regional Engineer concerning water quality of Grants Creek. He said the reason for the appearance of the creek as compared to other streams in the area was attributed to the discharge of wastewater from the Towns of Landis and China Grove and the City of Salisbury. He said only Salisbury's facility complies with the final limitations set forth in its NPDES permit. He further stated that the Towns of Landis and China Grove are included in the Salisbury 201 planning area. The 201 plan has been approved but not the funding. Both these towns are on a compliance schedule which requires compliance with final effluent limitations on or before July 1, 1986 for Landis and July 1, 1988 for China Grove. Federal law requires compliance with final limitations by July 1, 1988.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved to grant the County Manager permission to sign a contract with the Department of Transportation to share in the cost of replacing the monitor and beacon which have become unreliable on the tower. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval. They would be sharing 50 of the cost of \$3,750.00 (attached)

The Holiday Caravan is slated for November 23, 1983, at 3:00 p.m. in Spencer and 4:00 p.m. in Salisbury. Commissioner DeMarcus moved that the Commissioners should participate. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved that Commissioners take their regular turn and host the Wednesday November 23, 1983, meeting with Centralina. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval. Mr. Murdoch said the Civic Center would be available and that the food could be catered. Rowan County would share 1/3 of the cost.

Mr. Murdoch informed the Commissioners that Ronald Bowers, Assistant District Attorney had requested that cushions be provided for chairs and some type of intercom linking Judge Seay's secretary and their secretary be tied in with the one in the magistrate's office to the Sheriff's Department. County Buildings Supervisor, Charles Hedrick is looking into this.

Mr. Murdoch informed the Commissioners that Mayor Gilbert Mesimer, town of China Grove and the Board of Alderman had voted unanimously to go on record as endorsing the adoption by the Rowan County Commissioners of the recently approved ½ cent local option sales tax. Mayor Mesimer said the board feels that the additional ½ cents sales tax would provide much needed revenues particularly for wastewater treatment facilities in our county. Commissioner Sides made a motion to put this on the ballot at next election and let the people decide. Commissioner

Cohen seconded. Commissioners Sifford and DeMarcus and Chairman Steele voting against. Commissioner Sifford said that 65 counties have authorized public hearings for the ½ cents sales tax-there were only seven under .50 tax rate- Rowan County lowest on that list. He said there were a number of towns that needed improved sewage facilities and that the ½ cents sales tax would come up with additional revenue to meet that need. He moved to set a public hearing on October 17, 1983 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioners Meeting Room to consider the ½ cent sales tax. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Commissioner Sides said the Public Hearing was only a formality- that the Commissioners were afraid to ask the people. Commissioner Cohen said for the record he was not against a sales tax that it was the fairest way to raise revenue but he did not like the guidelines on the money. He would be in favor if we could spend the money the way we wanted to.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved that the Board ratify the publication of Industrial Revenue Bonds for National Starch and designate this meeting as a public hearing for the Project. Commissioner Cohen seconded. The motion passed with Commissioner Sides voting against. Commissioner Sides voted against saying that it was not enough time for discussion and he felt they should go to the bank and borrow the money at the best rate they can get. After the Board had heard all persons who requested to be heard, Commissioner Cohen made a motion that the public hearing be closed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner DeMarcus. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against. Commissioner Sifford moved the introduction of the resolution approving the issuance by the Rowan County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority of its \$1,000,000 Pollution Control Revenue Bond to finance a Pollution Control Project in Rowan County, N.C. for National Starch and Chemical Corporation and approving such project in principle. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against. (attached)

Chairman Steele declared the public hearing open to name an unnamed road Sunset End. There was no opposition. Chairman Steele declared the public hearing closed and entertained a motion to name the unnamed road Sunset End. Commissioner Cohen made the motion. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Tax Collector, Glenn Trexler reported \$863,127.24 total collections for the month of September, 1983.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to deny the request from Scottish Real Estate for the return of their property which had been acquired by Rowan County for taxes. Commissioner Cohen seconded. Commissioners Sifford, DeMarcus and Chairman Steele voting NO. Commissioner Sides said he had ignored the tax notices and had had ample time in which to pay them. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve re-conveying the property upon payment of all fees and to

include a deadline for receiving fees dated October 10. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Commissioners Sides and Cohen voting against. Chairman Steele voting I.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to accept the 1982-83 Audit Report. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. Mr. Bucky Glover from Potter and Company presented the report to Commissioners. He recommended that formal journal entry procedures be implemented and also that the forthcoming new data processing system be reviewed to insure that the county be able to grow with the system without making costly program changes, Mr. Glover also recommended that all departments operate under the same account structure and that a copy of the lease for an item of computer equipment be obtained from the vendor. Mr. Glover said that General Statute 159-32 requires that all funds collected over \$250 be deposited daily and recommended that all departments deposits be reviewed periodically to insure compliance with N.C. regulations. Suggested that Rowan County should consider implementing a grant management program to insure that grant rules are properly complied with and would help to reduce future program audit costs. He recommended that Commissioners review the trust funds set up for clients with Mr. Koontz and consider the use of an automated bookkeeping process. Mr. Glover reported \$1,786,107 as of June 30 as the unappropriated general fund balance. (attached)

Mr. Dan Williams, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Sonny Epting, executive vice-president presented the Chamber's Industrial Development Plan to Commissioners. It consisted of composing a commission of two appointed by the Board of Commissioners, two by the City County and two by the Chamber of Commerce and a full time position for an officer to recruit industries for the county. The proposal calls for the commission and recruiter to be funded on a three-year experimental period. Mr. Williams said the proposal does not suggest a budget for the commission, but a Gifford, Neilson and Williams study of similar commissions found their average budget to be between \$75,000-\$80,000. He said this was a considerable amount of money but taxes generated by new industries would be put back into the commission's fund and the funding from the county and city would diminish as opposed to increasing. Commissioner Sides said the request for a full time officer sounds good but, he said "I can envision you will be back with a request for a full time secretary!" Mr. Williams said the chamber was not asking the board for money. The proposal asks the commissioners to appoint a commission. Commissioner Sides said the taxpayers would not benefit from modernized recruiting efforts! Mr. Williams said how about 3,088 jobs that were generated by the 20 county industries recruited by the chamber since the early 1970's! Chairman Steele said this matter will be taken into consideration next month.

After Worth Freeze, a citizen who resides on Lipe Road in Atwell Fire Department District, presented the petition signed by residents on that road who

wished to remain in Atwell, a public hearing was set for October 17, 1983 at 6:30 p.m. to hear from anyone who would be agreeing or disagreeing. Lipe Road was split in the middle when new fire districts were formed. The other fire district being Locke.

Commissioner Sifford moved to authorize a committee of Curtis Graham, Carl Sloop, Jr. and Mrs. DeMarcus to negotiate a price for a 12 acre tract of land adjoining Sloan Park. Former Commissioner Rufus Honeycutt is administrator for the land. Commissioner Cohen seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against.

Mr. Ed Haupt, Rowan County Sheriff's Department requested permission to transfer a set of blue lights which no longer fit on Sheriff's vehicles to Faith and Granite Quarry to use on their patrol unit. Commissioner Sides making the motion, Commissioner Sifford seconding with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to give Sheriff's Department permission to install a telephone line for their Crime Stopper's Program. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. The money to come from Contingencies. Commissioner Sifford commented that by having this line, it would increase the effectiveness of solving crimes in our county.

Chairman Steele asked Mr. Haupt to convey to the off-duty officers that worked during the Proctor Chemical explosion, that their services were certainly appreciated that day.

Mr. Murdoch reported personnel:

Deborah Roach at the Health Department at \$717 replacing Joy Himes at \$717.

Doris Shives, Register of Deeds \$717 replacing Patty Kluttz at \$782.

Alex Wallace, Landfill working weekends at \$4.40/hour.

Susan Dishman PHN at \$1291, replacing Bonnie Goodwin at \$1291.

Stella Stirewalt, PHNI at \$1291 replacing Wilkerson at \$1291.

Madge Fulton clerical at the Health Department at \$621 replacing Kay Edwards at \$683.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve the personnel.  
Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch read a letter from Chief Bost requesting salary increases for: Lt. J.G. Lawson promoted to Lt. At a salary of \$13,716, T.I. Bullard promoted to patrolman at a requested salary of \$11,556, Virginia King, promoted to Sergeant, requested salary of \$13,056. These changes were made due to a change in the organization at the North Kannapolis office in the Civil Process and the resignation of Sgt. C.S. Beaver. No new monies involved because of the surplus money left in Sgt. Beaver's salary.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve Lawson's and Bullard's salary increases. Commissioner Sides seconded with unanimous approval. Commissioner Sides said he would like to know more about Mrs. King's promotion to Sgt. Commissioner Sifford and Commissioner DeMarcus agreed that they would like to know what step she is on now.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to defer approving Mrs. King's promotion until more information is available. Commissioner Sides seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to reconsider not approving the 1<sup>st</sup> two- Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch reported Interest:

General Fund	\$57,611.04
Revenue Sharing	9,078.35
Debt Service	2,261.28
Murtis Nicholas	291.85
Drainage	<u>213.02</u>
	\$69,455.54

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the budget amendment- Section I- Matching funds Council of Arts- add \$3,000- Section II- to allow for the expenditure of a donation to Special Populations for the Senior Citizens Games- from the Salisbury Jaycees of \$300. Commissioner Sifford seconded. The motion carrying with Commissioner Sides voting NO.

Based on figures presented by Bob Haynes- Centralina, Commissioner Sides made a motion to accept the bid from Pilot Insurance for the County's accident insurance. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch presented bids on Sheriff's Automobiles. Nine Patrol cars- one for Sheriff. The bids were from City Motor Co. and Foil Motor Co.

City bid        \$10,560 each for the nine and  
                         11,093 for the Sheriff's car.

Foil bid         \$10,550 each for the nine and  
                         11,200 for the Sheriff's car.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to accept the low bids. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against. The Chairman voting I.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to reappoint Bill Hannah to the Rowan County Housing Authority. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. (5-year term)

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to appoint Mrs. Fred Campbell to the Jury Commission. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval. (2-year term)

Commissioner DeMarcus moved to appoint Miss Rhonda Smith to the Juvenile Justice Committee. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval. This is the first time a student has ever been appointed to this task force.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to pay to the Division of Youth Services- the amount of \$465 for a 31 day detention of a Rowan County Youth offender.

Mr. Murdoch presented refunds- from the Building Inspection Office.

1. issue to E.w. Schenk and Son Electrical Co. the amount of \$10.00. The job was done by someone else.
2. Issue to C.M. Williams Heating & Air-Conditioning the amount of \$10.00 for an overcharge.
3. Issue to Bruce Mann the amount of \$5.00- the permit was issued in error.
4. Issue to Jerry Isenhour- Isenhour Real Estate and Construction Co.- the amount of \$24.10 instead of building 1 larger house, Mr. Isenhour decided to build two small ones.
5. Issue to Shelly Kendrick the amount of \$30.00 for rent on a campsite at Dan Nicholas Park. She decided not to stay for one week since the Park does not offer sewage facilities.
6. Issue to James H. Hand, Sr. the amount of \$88.12 for taxes paid in 1982 on a \$25,920 property.

Commissioner Sifford moved to contract with the City and extend a twelve inch water main from the City limits near Klumac Road down the Old Conord Road to service the County Health Department, the Old County Home and the Donnelly Home for Children. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Commissioners Sides and Cohen voting against. Chairman Steele voting I. The money (estimated \$75,000 to be the County's part) will first come from renewed revenue sharing or unappropriated surplus. The city may be willing to return to the County one half of the tap-on fees.

Commissioner DeMarcus told the Commissioners that space in the basement of the Courthouse has been provided for Nell Sowers who has been appointed coordinator for the Community Work program, a result of the new driving while impaired legislation. Commissioner DeMarcus asked commissioners to compile a list of community service jobs that could be offered through the county for violators of the new law.

Commissioner Sifford reported DOR's proposals for upgrading some of the Rowan County Bridges during the next several years. Because of the extra funding that will be available from N.C. through the extra 5 cent a gallon federal gasoline tax, DOT has slated \$5.6 million worth of bridge improvements for 19 bridges in 1985 and 1986. Commissioner Sifford said the 19 bridges encompassed by the \$5.6 million list of improvements are candidate projects.

Commissioner DeMarcus told the commissioners that the Human Services Council was compiling a booklet on their services.

Commissioners agreed to meet with the Jaycees about their leasing of the county fairgrounds to certain organizations. Commissioner Sides complained about a mobile home auction held at the fairgrounds this year; and Commissioner DeMarcus said there had been complaints about a Veterinary Clinic held there.

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting until October 17, 1983 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners