

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 1983

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on December 5 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 DeMarcus opened with prayer.

Commissioner DeMarcus made one correction to the minutes of November 7 – paragraph 3 to add status of small business developments – headed by R.O. Everett- Commissioner DeMarcus then made a motion to approve the minutes of November 7 and November 23. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

As an addition to the Agenda, Commissioner DeMarcus asked that she be allowed to talk to the Board about the forthcoming meeting with the Transportation Planner.

Seth Murdoch, County Manager, at this time took the floor for the selection of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the coming year. Floor open for Chairman. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to nominate Hall Steele for Chairman. Commissioner Sifford seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against.

Floor open for Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to nominate Jamima DeMarcus for Vice-Chairman. Chairman Steele seconded and moved nominations be closed. Commissioner Sifford seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against.

Chairman Steele “thanked the Board for their support and said that they have accomplished a great deal with everyone working hard to do a good job.”

Monthly reports. Chairman Steele directed attention to Mr. Koontz’s report and brought to the attention of the Board that Mr. Koontz along with three other county directors were among the sixty invited guests at the National Child Welfare Leadership Conference in Atlanta on November 3 and 4th. The four local directors felt very honored to have been included with such an elite group.

Commissioner Sifford moved to give the Chairman authority to sign a 10 year lease with Martin Marietta to place a dumpster near the quarry in Woodleaf. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Commissioner Sides commented that he was still sold on County wide collection, but he would support this motion. The motion passing with Commissioner Cohen voting against.

The County Manager reported that General Revenue Sharing had been reauthorized for three years. Commissioners agreed to discuss the allocation of these funds at their January meeting when needed information will be available.

Commissioner Sifford moved authority for payroll deductions for anyone wishing to join the North Carolina Local Government Employees' Federal Credit Union. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve the road petition for Old Enochville Road located in Atwell Township off Enochville Road. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. (attached)

Mr. Clyde Fahnestock, Aging Director, presented to Commissioners four steps for increasing the funds available for the Nutrition Program for recovery of money over-spent for meals. He said he would estimate that an additional \$2,800 in county funds would be required. Karen Buckle from COG was also present to answer any questions that Commissioners might have. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to grant the additional \$2,800 requested. His motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner DeMarcus said she preferred at this time to transfer the funds from the other line items. She made a motion to approve the four steps. 1. To shift funds from other line items in the budget to the line items for caterer's expense. Available - \$1,700. 2. General additional program income by seeking additional contributions from the elderly, estimate increase of \$4,800. 3. Shift funds from Title III-B services to Title III-C services for caterer's expense – estimated transfer of \$4,867. 4. Request Rowan County Commissioners to show ultimate responsibility for maintaining and strengthening the services to the elderly. This can be done by displaying some of the in-kind with cash matching. Following the implementation of the above action steps, the estimated cash needed would be \$2,800 – without USDA reimbursement they would need \$6,800. Commissioner Sifford seconded. Commissioner Sides said he was opposed to step 4. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against.

Mr. Glenn Trexler, Tax Collector reported \$892,805.50 in total taxes for the month of November.

There were no personnel replacements.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to advertise for a finance director and give the County Manager, Seth Murdoch a 10% salary increase to \$35,231. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. She said she had submitted a request to Chairman Steele several months ago to allow Mr. Murdoch some help – that it was inhuman for one person to have to serve in all those capacities. She said she was “glad that others had seen the light!” Commissioners Sides said he could see nothing wrong with advertising for a finance officer, if Mr. Murdoch’s salary remains the same. Commissioner DeMarcus said she had not heard a time limit in this plan. Chairman Steele recommended January 1 and not waiting until July. Mr. Murdoch said the 10% salary increase should be implemented at the same time we advertise for a finance director. Commissioner Sides reminded the Commissioners of the Special Projects Coordinator position that was created by the Board to assist Mr. Murdoch. Commissioner Sifford called for the question saying that Commissioner Sides was out of order. Commissioner Sides continued. Chairman Steele called question, Commissioners DeMarcus and Sifford agreeing, Commissioner Sides and Cohen disagreeing. The motion was defined, Commissioners Sides voting against. Chairman I.

Mr. Dan Williams, Chamber of Commerce, told Commissioners that on November 11, members of the Salisbury-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce attending the Annual Planning Session at Myrtle Beach unanimously endorsed sending a resolution to the Rowan County Commissioners urging them to endorse and support the establishment of an industrial commission for Rowan County. Commissioner DeMarcus read a lengthy statement raising points regarding industrial recruitment. She said since 1960, women working in Rowan County have increased from 12,546 to 22,260, and that 45% should be considered in industrial recruitment plans. Commissioner DeMarcus said this board should have been brought in as a lead group in early planning. Mr. Williams said the Chamber was asking for support of the concept only and that much planning and public discussion remained. Commissioner Sides said the proposal was too aggressive. He said Rowan County would continue to grow automatically and that the supporters of the Commissioner represented banking, real estate and government interests. It does not necessarily represent the people. Commissioner DeMarcus inquired about a meeting with the chamber along with the city council and mayors of each town would be Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00. Mr. Williams said all Commissioners were invited. Commissioner Sifford said he would support the concept for a program, but was not resolved in how it will be formatted. Mr. Williams said without the county’s support, it will not work. Chairman Steele at this time entertained a motion to adopt or not adopt the resolution. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to adopt the concept and participate in it. Commissioner Cohen seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved the introduction and approved the adoption of a resolution approving the issuance of industrial revenue bonds for National Starch

and Chemical Corporation Project in the principal amount of \$1,000,000. Commissioner Sifford seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Sides voting against. (attached)

Commissioner DeMarcus moved acceptance of a deed for 30 acres of land donated by Cannon Mills to Rowan and Cabarrus counties for a recreation park. Commissioner seconded saying he wanted to make it clear that accepting the deed did not obligate the county in anyway. Discussion continued. Mr. Tom Dayvault, Cabarrus-Rowan Park Commission assured Commissioner Sifford that it would not and encouraged the Board to go ahead and accept the deed. He said the State had already approved a matching grant for the park and everything is ready to go. Commissioner Sides said obligation could not be avoided if the county accepted the deed. Commissioners Sides and Cohen voting against. Chairman voting I.

Daryl Shelby, Data Processing Supervisor recommended that the County accept the bid from IBM for the IBM System 38 Computer. He basically outlined his reasoning and said in the longrun it was the best alternative for the county. Commissioner DeMarcus asked Daryl if he had talked with other departments about using this system and if they were in agreement. Commissioners Sides said Daryl was an expert in this matter and carried more weight. Commissioner Sifford said this was his decision as well, that it was his personal choice, after considering the costs of the other computers. He said this would not end the county's problems but it would be a start. Commissioner Cohen made a motion for the county to purchase the IBM 38 system on a lease purchase agreement. Commissioner Sides seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch reported that the Christmas Holidays for county employees would be Monday, December 26 and Tuesday 27th.

Mr. Murdoch reported Interest:

General Fund	\$91,119.97
Revenue Sharing	\$12,866.74
Debt Service	\$2,261.28
Murtis Nicholas	\$495.31
Drainage	\$213.02
Revaluation	<u>\$1,576.60</u>

\$108,532.92

Commissioner Cohen said he had a great deal of problems with the state's resolution for the county's support for a Amtrac route from Charlotte to Raleigh. He said if it was a true necessity and meant money for the county, he could support it. There was no motion.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to proceed with advertising for the installation of propane gas tanks for use in the conversion of Sheriff's autos. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch reported one refund for Kenneth Trexler for the amount of \$4.14 for a permit to build a building. He built a smaller building rather than a large one. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve it. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to offer to Mr. Marvin B. Wood the property on Short Street for \$2,020, the amount listed on the county tax books, rather than accepting his offer of \$1,000. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners deferred Board appointments until their January meeting which will be January 3, Tuesday since Monday the second will be a holiday for the county.

Commissioners set January 3 at 1:30 for their meeting with the Fair Association.

Commissioner DeMarcus informed Commissioners about the Transportation meeting with Charles Glover, Senior Transportation planner on Monday, December 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the conference room. Dr. Ross Adams, Chief Analysis Division in Washington has also been invited.

Chairman Steele informed Commissioners about a public hearing that he had attended with Robie Nash concerning the transfer of water from North Carolina to Virginia Beach. He said that he was in full support not approving the transfer and exposing the Yadkin River.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and real estate matter. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sides made a motion for the Board to come out of Executive Session and back into Regular Session. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

The Board took no action with either matter.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners