

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF

ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ADJOURNED MEETING

APRIL 9, 1984

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building on April 9, 1984 at 4:45 P.M. The following members were present: Chairman Hall Steele, Jamima DeMarcus, Harry Sifford, Jim Sides and Jim Cohen.

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

Chairman Steele turned the meeting over to Commissioner Sifford who recognized members of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Referring to the Emergency Medical Services Draft which Commissioners had been given a copy earlier in the meeting, Commissioner Sifford started with the references which the Ad Hoc Committee had compiled from studies that had previously been done and was recent enough to be valid for the EMS study.

Commissioner Sifford said the Ambulance Franchise Ordinance, pointing out as models, Orange and New Hanover counties is one of the first needs the county needs to address. The letter from Aubrey Cheek, offering training courses an economical source of training for EMS that time element was the "key" for saving lives.

A letter from Mayor Walter Boger, Town of Rockwell confirming action of the Town Board, Commissioner Sifford said the committee ruled out basing an ambulance there because it is not cost-effective to enter too far into the county at this time. He said Cost per call for an ambulance there with a paid staff would be \$300.

Commissioner DeMarcus spoke for people living near county borders near Mooresville and Kannapolis. Commissioner Sifford said the Ordinance could set up geographical boundaries 2-3- miles within the county and allow out-of-county ambulance services to pick up Rowan patients.

Referring to Robert Gunn's letter to Commissioners discussed the requirement of a Centralized Communications Center. He said the center should be freestanding instead of being located at the Salisbury Police Department.

Commissioner Sifford said he had talked with Ms. Carolyn K. Davis of the Federal Health Care Financing Administration who is interested in these studies and she said she would send him an application to apply for a grant. He said he felt that he could get funds for this study.

Commissioner Sifford then asked Ms. Rebecca Yarbrough, Centralina Council of Governments to talk to Commissioners about training EMTs. She said for the EMT-I level, the state has very specific requirements including hospital sponsorship, additional EMT training at least 40 hours per person and centralized emergency call reception. She said advanced level would require thorough record-keeping in the field. She recommended establishing a permanent EMS commission and said the county would have to appoint a medical director. She said one problem that needs to be addressed is that ambulances are not always immediately available. Another is travel time of 15-20- minutes minimally to some areas of the county. She said if ambulances were relocated on the southeast and northwest sides of town, the county could shave 3-4- minutes from average response time. She said the county could use first responders. That the county could develop plan for using people. She said the public should be educated on who to call- to hold a public campaign. She said that time of call is not reported- just the dispatch time. She told commissioners that a proposal should be submitted to the Board of Medical Examiners and to get a contract with the people you will be training to avoid becoming a training ground for other counties.

Dr. Skowronek said that an advisory committee would be the key to keeping Commissioners up-to-date. He said 1st. responders could be upgraded to an EMT-I to handle everyday jobs that there were educational resources available.

Commissioner Sides was disturbed about the manner in which C & M Ambulance handled their fees. Commissioner Sifford told him that the Franchise could be spelled out in agreement "not to badger the patient until the service is received.

Commissioner Sides said he was in favor of putting "it to a vote", asked what are we asking them to approve. Commissioner Sifford said 1 cent on the tax increase for benefiting program in the manner that "we have staged it"!

Mr. Richard Hurder, Associate Director EMS, Rowan Memorial Hospital told Commissioners that the Hospital's Board of Trustees has agreed for the hospital to sponsor the program.

Commissioner Sides asked Mr. Hurder about a problem with the hospital's communications radio. Dr. David Skowronek, said the frequency is jammed and doctors can't hear what is being said because of overlapping messages. Mr. Hurder said it was a system-wide problem.

Commissioner Cohen recommended meeting again before making decisions.

Commissioner Sifford said it was a complex problem- a lot of work necessary- what to accomplish- appointing an advisory committee is a very important step you have to get the point across to the general public before they can vote.

Commissioner DeMarcus asked for to set a time for another meeting.

Dr. Eric Zellner, emergency services physician at Rowan Memorial Hospital said the committee should include volunteers active in the EMT system in the county and ordinary citizens who are heavy in administration.

Commissioner DeMarcus said the committee should also include (plain) citizens.

Commissioner Sides said he did not have a problem with anyone that is on the present committee except for Mr. Mills.

Commissioner Cohen said that each Commissioner could submit one name. Commissioner DeMarcus said the (5) in addition to the initial twelve (12) committee members, asked if a 17-member committee would be unwieldy.

Commissioners decided to meet next Monday, April 16, 1984 at 4:45 P.M. to decide on committee members.

Commissioner Cohen presented a matter of personnel at the Park to Commissioners. Mr. Foltz, Director, requesting that they approve the position of Assistant to the Parks and Recreation Director/ Concessions Manager. Recommending starting the new employee at the salary of 16-D \$11,256.00. Stating that this would not be an increase to their present position or budget.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to defer any changes in qualifications- all other requests until we can accomplish what has been started. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded.

Commissioner Sides said he would like to see the county reward with merit; and that we need to give department heads a pay plan or guidelines to go by.

Commissioner Cohen said the county would never have a plan that will justify everyone.

Commissioner Sides withdrew his motion and Commissioner DeMarcus withdrew her second when Mr. Murdoch told him that this position- for Andrea Reitzel was based on starting salary- same as the present employee and that the County Personnel Resolution required Department heads to request Commissioners permission to start a new employee at a salary above the entry level if their qualifications warranted a higher salary. Commissioner Sides made a motion that we allow Mr. Foltz to hire Andrea Reitzel at the starting salary of \$11,256.00. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen presented another personnel matter to the Board that of the position of Naturalist II at the Park. Robbie Julian had submitted his resignation to Commissioners. Mr. Foltz said in his letter that in order to hire a replacement for this position with a qualified person, he recommended starting the replacement with the existing salary- 25F- \$14,755.00. He said this would not be an increase to the present position or budget. Commissioners agreed to instruct Mr. Foltz to start interviewing people and report back to them.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to deny Mrs. Jean Ramsey's request to allow Mrs. Dorothy T. Freeze an increase in salary from \$10,200 to \$10,450. Commissioner Cohen seconded. Mr. Murdoch told Commissioners that Mrs. Freeze and Mrs. Frances D. Fink received promotions to Assistant Register of Deeds, and that Mrs. Fink was already in the pay step for assistant, but Mrs. Freeze was not.

In Mrs. Ramsey's letter she stated that the money for this increase was in her budget.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to defer this matter. Commissioner Cohen seconded.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to vote on the substitute motion to defer. Commissioner Cohen seconded. The motion carrying with Commissioner Sides voting NO.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to approve the request from Bob Pegram to allow a family-oriented rodeo and permission to auction 40 mobile homes at the county fairgrounds pending the county attorney's decision on liability if buyers cannot get clear titles to the mobile homes. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. This motion was granted tentatively upon the County Attorney's ruling.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to allow County Veterinarians to charge \$5 for all rabies clinics, both for one-year and three-year vaccinations. May 26 will be the first clinic. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch said he had written a letter to Mr. Jack Doby concerning the incorporation of Gold Hill. Commissioners set May 7 at 7:30 P.M. at the East Gold Hill fire department for a public Hearing for Gold Hill residents to discuss whether they want to remain incorporated.

Commissioner Sides made a motion to authorize the Sheriff to advertise seven automobiles to be bid on as single bids or on all of them. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. The cars are:

1977- Chevrolet	1978- Ford
1980- Ford	3-1978 Plymouths
1980- Ford	

County Attorney, Kluttz had investigated the refund for Ronald William Stout at the V.A. Medical Center. His ruling was to approve it. Commissioners still did not understand all the facts and Commissioner Sides made a motion to defer it as there was still a question as to this maybe not being a legal ruling. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus said she would like to proceed with the transportation improvement and made a motion to authorize Mr. Murdoch to contact City Manager, Harvey Mathias regarding a joint city-county study of transportation improvement. Commissioner Sifford seconded. Commissioners Sides and Cohen voting against. Chairman Steele voting I.

Commissioner Sifford directed Commissioner DeMarcus to stay with the action taken by them with no money involved concerning her meeting with the Kan-La-Con. Chairman Steele told her to monitor the expenditures.

Commissioners agreed with Commissioner Sides to refer a request from someone wanting permission to use the South Rowan Branch of the Rowan Public Library to the Library Board. The request was from a Cabarrus County resident with property in Rowan to Commissioner DeMarcus.

Commissioner DeMarcus informed Commissioners about a letter that she had received from Lucy Enloe concerning the 400th. Anniversary Celebration in Manteo. Each county had been requested to spend \$150 on a county flag to be displayed. The flag would be sent back to the county.

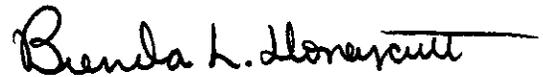
Commissioner Sides made a motion to adopt the American Flag as the County Flag. His motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Cohen said he would like to have input- time to think about a design for the flag since the deadline was announced to be April 27.

Chairman Steele informed the Commissioners about Dan Pate who canoed 400 miles on the Yadkin and Pee Dee rivers. The result from this was the formation of a canoe trail. They held a meeting and 90 people attended. His next expedition is the Dan River in connection with the anniversary at Manteo on July 13.

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting until April 16, at 4:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners