

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF

ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BUDGET HEARINGS

MAY 29, 1984

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building on May 29, 1984 at 7:00 P.M. The following members were present: Chairman Hall Steele, Jamima DeMarcus, Harry Sifford and Jim Cohen. Absent was: Jim Sides.

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

Mr. Phil Barton, Director of the Rowan County Library along with Mrs. Swaim, representing the Board of Trustees of the Library presented their budget to the Commissioners.

Mrs. Swaim said there were 10,383 participants, with a 6.5% circulation. She said a major expansion has been the microcomputers. She gave the Library's accomplishments for this year, one- the Quizball went to the State finals and there are over 1,060 children participating in the summer programs.

Mr. Barton said his budget represents about a 6% increase over the current fiscal year. He is asking for extra staff hours for six part-time pages, five library assistants and a custodial worker; an increase of \$10,000 in Contract Services for expansion of the building with Friends of the Library raising \$5,000. Mr. Barton said a building expansion plan would allow the county to be ready in case Federal or State funds were made available for library construction. He asked that Commissioners please consider the \$8,000 for a fire alarm system in the Building Maintenance line item. He said this would tie in the main library with the city fire department. He informed the Commissioners that the library has a million dollar inventory.

Mr. Daylon T. Greene, Area Director for the Tri-County Mental Health presented their budget. He said the per capita amount in the Tri-County program is currently \$1.17. Within the Tri-County area, Davie County contributed a per capita amount of \$1.29, Iredell contributed \$1.35 per capita and Rowan County contributed \$.99 per capita or a total of \$100,693.

The request from Rowan County FY84-85 is \$176,121 which includes \$40,000 in ABC funds. He is requesting more space in the Rowan program; services such as a halfway house for the chronic mentally ill, inpatient hospitalization and other direct services that need to be provided. He said in order for them to meet budget needs for next year, they are seeking additional State funds to cover a loss of funds in D.W.I. in the amount of \$130,848. He said this loss came about with the implementation of the Safe Road Act. And also, they are asking the State for an increase of \$115,545 in Area Matching money.

The sheriff is asking for 10% salary increases for each employee with the exception of Captains Brady, Haupt, and Potts. He said raises for these officers have been requested according to their individual duties. He is asking for an additional dispatcher.

Chief Bost said sheriff's deputies pays for all of their equipment except for their uniforms.

The Sheriff is requesting office equipment and equipment for his expected 19 vehicles from capital outlay vehicles- and out of this line item is \$12,000.00 for the purchase of a new Station Wagon; \$11,500.00 for the purchase of a new four wheel drive truck. \$5,663.00 to be used for a Stand-By Electrical System for Sheriff's Office, communications and seven emergency light units in various locations in the Rowan County Jail.

Salaries for the Jail include eight additional personnel-eight correctional deputies formerly included in the Sheriff's Department Budget. The Sheriff included a 10% salary increase for each employee and an additional increase for Mary Norris, the Cook. Included extra under uniforms for the eight additional deputies and \$50 to be used to purchase tee shirts for the trustees assigned to the Jail.

The Sheriff is requesting \$1,500.00 to cover the purchase of medications to re-stock the Jail Drug Cabinet.

The \$4,100.00 reflects a request for the installation of an additional telephone line for the Jail's office. This resulted in an increase of \$31.00 per month in the telephone bill. At the present time there is only one line to the Rowan County Jail.

The Sheriff is requesting additional funds for repairs to the clothes dryer and commercial range in the Jail Kitchen.

\$1,790.00 has been requested to be used to replace four chairs used in the Jail Kitchen and Offices.

Salaries for the North Kannapolis Jail includes four communications/correctional deputies previously contained in the Rowan County Sheriff's Department budget and reflects a request for a 10% salary increase for each officer. \$285.00 is requested for each officer for the year for clothing.

Sheriff Stirewalt said in conclusion that he hoped Commissioners would keep deputy salaries in mind, that it would simplify a lot of headaches.

Mr. Carl Sloop, Jr. Director of Drainage and Watershed told Commissioners that Donnie Moore, Office Asst. II was more deserving than a 2.5% increase, that she worked as secretary to Soil Conservation as well as Watershed.

In answer to Commissioner DeMarcus's question concerning prison labor, Mr. Sloop told her that \$800 paid for four men(prisoners) 200 working days a year.

Mr. Sloop told Commissioners that the county has erected approximately 1,500 new signs in the past year and was 28% short of its goal. The county requires 954 more blades and 478 more poles in order to complete the job. A request of \$18,000 to come out of Revenue Sharing. He said that each sign once completed cost \$33.75.

Mr. Sloop asked that Commissioners take and accept his budget as is or it would have an adverse effect on a lot of things if they didn't.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to sign both contracts, Regular Auditing and single auditing , regular \$20,000 and single - \$6,000 instead of \$10,000; and send to local government for the coming year. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch told Commissioners that he had talked with the postmaster about a contract on advertisements. They might be able to work out a deal which would mean a savings for the county.

Mr. Murdoch told Commissioners that a package telephone system for four county buildings, Community Building, County Office Building, Sheriff's Dept. and Health Department would cost \$59,966.00. He said the savings in five years would be \$7,000 and 10 years would be \$80,000.

Mr. Murdoch said the United Arts Council was requesting \$15,000, the Army Flight Facilities- \$5,067 and the New Economic Development Commission- \$34,294.

The Salisbury Economic Development Department is requesting \$30,000- the Vocational Workshop- \$51,690.- \$87,690 for Public Safety which includes the county paying of the salaries for two dispatchers, and \$150 a month to the county's twenty-five departments. A total of \$796,620 in revenue sharing expenditures with the biggest chunk going to the building of a new Agricultural Extension Service Center on the Old Concord Road-the county has set aside \$250,000 and it will take two more budget years before that project can be started unless more funds are appropriated.

Mr. Murdoch told Commissioners that Third Creek had been dissolved by a joint resolution in 1975. The county jointly helps to fund the maintenance. Rowan County's part is 30% and Iredell- 70%. Rowan pays \$7,950 and Iredell pays \$26,500.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

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

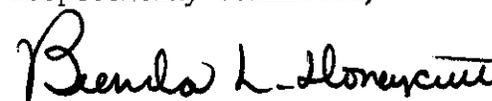
No action was taken on the matter of personnel.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to interview applicants for the Ambulance Director Thursday night, May 31, 1984 at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to postpone review of the budget until Monday afternoon, after Commissioner's Regular Meeting. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting until Thursday night, May 31, 1984 at 7:00.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners