

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING
MAY 24, 1985

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building on May 24, 1985 at 8:30 a.m. The following members were present: Commissioner Jamima DeMarcus, Commissioner Harry Sifford, Chairman Hall Steele, Commissioner Richard Messinger and Commissioner Newton Cohen.

Chairman Hall Steele called the 3rd. meeting of budget hearings to order and Commissioner DeMarcus opened with prayer.

Commissioners heard from Sheriff Stirewalt and Captain Potts. A request for extra officers for Cleveland, Granite and Faith on the same basis as others have been 50%. They take care of their car and other expenses. Sheriff said they needed more officers in the county. Commissioner Sifford said he knew Granite Quarry needed a fill-in on days when the other two men were off.

A request for thirteen vehicles to add eight and replace five and 10 radios. They are asking a vehicle for each officer that did not get one last year. The Sheriff said he liked to keep two in reserve for special deputies.

Captain Potts said everyone who patrols needs a bullet-proof vest. There are no spares. A request for fourteen was made. Question raised concerning spotlights, She said the cars you buy from the Department of Highway has no spotlight- a request for 13 and 9- 12 gauge shotguns- one for each car. 7- Fed. Speakers, 9- Fire Extinguishers, 9- First Aid Kits.

Commissioner Cohen said he would like to see us get salaries upgraded. We are low, he said. Discussion followed concerning rotating shifts and the N. Kannapolis organization. Sheriff Stirewalt said no one has talked about what they are going to do in N. Kannapolis. Captain Potts said they had requested a 5% across the board increase plus fifteen percent salary increase for all employees. Some reclassifications and salary adjustments for several offices in the department and a request for an additional Deputy Sheriff to be assigned Court-room duties and for a Custodial Worker for assignment to the Sheriff's Department in lieu of the present cleaning service contract. For an individual to be classed as a Custodial Worker II.

Chairman Steele asked the Sheriff how he could see the budget if we did not have Kannapolis. The Sheriff said in Southern Rowan, we could do a better job taking out the taverns- give our men more time.

Chairman Steele asked Commissioner Messinger if he would talk to officials in Kannapolis to see if they "wanted our help"; and we would proceed as presented in the budget.

Sheriff told Commissioners they need to think about an addition to the Jail- some were sleeping on the floor- has had 15 to 20 which were "out of limits".

Robert Gunn, Fire Marshall and Emergency Management Director told Commissioners that a lot of his budget depends on the future development of the EOC. He is requesting a new position for an Administrative Assistant/Fire Marshal to assist him. He said this position is important in order to get a person in and trained due to Mr. Leslie Lee's forthcoming retirement.

Mr. Gunn is requesting in capital outlay, an automobile, one radio base station, 2 walkie-talkie, one mobile radio, 12 folding chairs, and one antenna and cable for low band base.

Mr. Gunn was questioned by the Commissioners concerning-the action that had been taken by them in setting lines in the districts by - map- they thought this had been agreed on by all parties, but said according to Bostian Heights, this was not the case. Mr. Gunn said everything had been explained to them. Commissioner DeMarcus asked Mr. Gunn if he had acknowledged the fact to them that the 5 mile radius was a new law. Mr. Gunn said he had. Commissioners agreed that what had happened must have been a breakdown of communication and that Commissioner Messinger and Mr. Gunn would converse with them again.

Mr. Joe Sulkowski, REMAS Director, told Commissioners that he had looked at what they spent last year and looked at needs instead of wants to upgrade- he said he had worn out equipment in need of repairs and replacement and to add manpower in order to become more effective. Request is for two full-time EMTS-one full-time operation officer. Commissioner Sifford said we need to pursue the V.A. Contract. The motion was to approve two personnel if we got the contract. Joe said the VA was to get back to him but they did not .

Uniforms- Joe said the increase was for protective clothing for all personnel. He said the clothing was reflective and could be seen at night.

Commissioner DeMarcus said "we owe it to our people to approve their request for the Hepatitis B Vaccine"- Joe said one employee has already been exposed to it. He said \$2,500 would be enough to cover everyone.

Rick Boutiller, Crew Chief talked to Commissioners about the First Responders Program. He asked for \$4,000 to bring fire departments on line. Commissioner DeMarcus said we need to encourage all departments to participate in this program.

Mr. Craig Trexler, Codes Enforcement Officer told Commissioners he still needed additional personnel. That no progress has been made in securing qualified people. The solution might be to hire four people, to do four different inspections or hire one person who holds all certificates. Commissioners told Craig to not get hung up on the starting salary to come to them that they were backing him all the way. Craig said he needed one capable person specifically in electrical.

Commissioner Cohen suggested that Mr. Russell and Mr. Murdoch get with Craig and set up a proposed rate schedule for a person holding certificates so he will have a schedule to advertise to have it on paper what you will be able to pay a qualified person.

Commissioners heard from Wayne Lackey, Sanitation and Landfill Supervisor. He is requesting in his Sanitation Budget- 2- 40yd. containers, 4- 6yd. containers- 2- air conditioners at compaction sites- 2- ramps- at new 40 yd. sites and 2- material and labor at new 40 yd. sites.

Landfill budget- One new loader- \$155,000- Discussion about moving N. Kannapolis site- Mr. Sloop, (Projects Coordinator) said it would cost approx. \$15,000- for ramp and concrete. Mr. Lackey said he had one more silt basin to put in- cost- \$5,000 he said three had been planned- two are in - one more within the next three or four months.

Carl Sloop- Watershed- and Paul Canup his assistant told Commissioners that they use prison labor to help with channel clearing- (skidding) that the county was responsible for maintaining 3rd creek. He said under capital outlay he needed a new vehicle- \$12,000 to replace a worn-out station-wagon it would need to be a full size vehicle- to carry weight of - 6 people and equipment.

Mr. Sloop told Commissioners that all the signs were in place except for added roads and some knocked down. The purchase of replacement signs, poles and hardware- \$5,000.00.

He said he needed a pick-up truck for carrying all equipment inc. a hydraulic lifter for lifting stumps made by broken poles. He said the truck was not included in the budget. Cost- \$10,000.

Mr. Sloop mentioned a sign- making machine- \$7 or \$8,000.00 did not recommend the county purchasing one- said the city would do our signs on an agreement or Cabarrus County has one also. He said it took 3 months to order from the State.

In other Business-

Bids on Nutrition Meals- Mr. Murdoch said we have only one choice but to pay \$1.908 per meal. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion that we accept the bid from Servomation. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners looked at a map showing new Mall Site and Kerns Industrial Park Site- Cost to developer - \$100,000, Salisbury- \$200,471, County- \$175,000- total of \$475,471- County would recoup its share at present tax rate in maximum of 3 years- \$59,250 in tax 1 year = \$177,750 in three years. Commissioner Messinger made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. The motion carried with Commissioner Cohen voting against- saying that he sees this proposal as a city operation. He said he thought the policy was to be extended to developers.

On the Secondary Roads Public Hearing - Mr. Don Honeycutt, DOT asked that Commissioners change the date that they had planned to another date because the night they had scheduled the hearing had already been taken. Commissioners agreed on June 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Murdoch said on the letter of intent to Southern Bell - he asked if they were ready to send it in- they agreed to give Mr. Murdoch permission to send the letter to Southern Bell.

Mr. Fred Howell, Veterans Service Officer requested to purchase a new typewriter. He said it was not in the budget. Anticipated \$874.00 for an IBM. He said if this was approved it would change line item 352- repairs to equipment from \$270 to \$100.

Mr. Harold Caudill, Agricultural Extension Director told Commissioners that he was reducing office supplies by \$400- service maintenance contract increased- travel reduced telephone increase - requesting in capital outlay- one- kitchen center-one desk- 25 stacking chairs- 5- tables for auditorium- one-tape recorder replace for radio program.

Mr. Caudill said in John Ramsay's blueprint of the new Agric. Bldg. that he was not completely satisfied with the planning of the auditorium - the way it is designed- layed out in square- he would prefer rectangle.

Mr. Daylon Greene, Tri-County Director read a prepared message to the Commissioners. He said their request from the county is \$180,387 including the ABC funds. This is an increase from \$138,453 in 1984-85. Mr. Greene said the population of our three counties has shifted to 48% of the total population for Rowan County. Asking for a per capita allocation of \$1.78 from each of the counties.

Commissioner Sifford said the County should receive some kind of reimbursement for rent on the Mahaley Ave. Building.

Mr. Herbert Hawley, Health Department Director presented his budget to the Commissioners. He said it was a modest budget. Overall 4% increase. In salaries- he had received temporary funding for PHN I- "Floating Nurse" Susan Thomas requesting county to fund this position the rest of the year. Requesting a \$16,676 slot. Requesting more travel for headstart nurse. County pays three months out of a year for this position.

Mr. Hawley said he did not know how the State would fund the Tuberculosis Program.

Risk Reduction Coordinator- Kay Hearst, he said is looking for a worksite.

Hypertention Program about the same- A firm figure-Arthritis - same funding might not be a firm figure.- Mr. Hawley said there were 50-70 participants in this Arthritis Pool Therapy Program at the V.A.

MCH- Largest - more funding- Increase- \$10,000.

Family Planning- \$2,000 increase- He said \$7,000 was collected in fees.

WIC- Mr. Hawley said they see 1,000 women and children in this clinic. Pregnant Women and small children. They are offered a good nutrition program.

Mr. Hawley said Neurology and Orthopedic Clinics were the same. The Neurology Clinic serves nine counties- most of the patients are from Rowan. The Orthopedic Clinic is the Health Department's oldest clinic. mostly sees scoliosis patients.

The Insect Program is the same- Helping with mosquitoes and tick problems during the summer months. Part of State appropriation.

Animal control- Good staff they cover the whole county except for the city. Mr. Hawley said they do a good job.

Commissioner Cohen said schools are a major issue he would like to see us address a couple of line items particularly Instructional Supplies and extra teachers at North Rowan Junior High School. He said he would like to express "our desires to see it go in that direction.

Commissioner DeMarcus said the "Final Analysis is that they get too choose- Public Relations stand point".

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting until Tuesday, May 28, at that time, Commissioners will begin their review of the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners