

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 3, 1985

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on June 3, 1985 at 9:00 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 meeting to order and Commissioner Sifford opened with prayer.

Approval of Minutes - May 7- Commissioner Cohen made a correction to the minutes of May 7, page 6- 9th. paragraph. To read Leroy Bostian instead of Leroy Bost. Commissioner Messinger made a correction to the minutes of May 7- 7th page- 3rd. paragraph- to change the word alienating to coordinating. Commissioner DeMarcus also made a correction to May 7 minutes- first page, 6th. paragraph- to read Charles Weaver's presentation of the school merger would be presented to the School Board at their meeting tonight. Commissioner Demarcus made a correction to the minutes of May 22- first page- 8th. paragraph- to read The Soar Program which is an adult day care service has a budget of \$30,375 to care for 16 clients. Commissioner DeMarcus made another correction to the minutes of May 22 to Page 4- 10th. paragraph to change Matthews to Mackey. Commissioner DeMarcus made a correction to minutes of May 24- second page - 8th. paragraph- to delete to offer \$10,000. With these corrections, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve minutes of May 7, 20, 22, 24 and 28. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Additions to the Agenda. Commissioner DeMarcus asked to talk about Rural Police DePartment; Commissioner Messinger requested to talk about "Landfill at question".

Tom Ayers, V.A. Hospital Administrator, presented to Captain Potts, representing the Rowan County Sheriff's Department, a commendation for appreciation of their good service to their organization.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to adopt Bill Hall's recommendation of division of classes for the Special Populations Advisory Board which are: Three classes, One year- Bill Hall, Jr., Two years- Marie Gilbert and Jim Murtaugh, Three years, Dr. Pat Whitley and Gary Rhodes- and that they may be re-appointed. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Messinger asked to defer the group for organizational purposes for election of needed officers.

Letter from Thomas Rhodes, State of N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development informing that the County's request for \$9,830.00 in financial assistance for the Salisbury Pump Station Access Site on the South Yadkin River has been approved by the State of N.C.

Letter from Earl Gadbery, President of Alcoa Foundation, advising Chariman Steele that Alcoa Foundation recently approved a grant of \$1,000 to the Rowan County Board of Commissioners for support of the Parks and Recreation Department's handicapped citizens program.

Mr. Murdoch said he had written a thank-you letter to Alcoa Foundation for the \$1,000 grant.

Letter to Chairman Steele from Paul Propst informing him that he would like to be reappointed to the Rowan County ABC Board whenever his term expires in August.

A Memo from N.C. Association of County Commissioners informing them of their June 11 meeting concerning Waste to Energy Options from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Albert Coates Local Government Center, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve a road petition for a service road into Carter Chair. Addition as an Industrial Access Road - adding for a distance of 521 feet to the secondary road system. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to take no action on a request from Charles Kluttz, Jr. Highway Maintenance Engineer for street name and sign on non-highway system street North Caldwell Street. The petition from Ruben Whitaker, 311 Rice Street, Kannapolis, N.C. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to set July 1 at 9:30 a.m. for a Public Hearing to change the name of Cook Farm Road to McGuire Road- Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch said he would make REMAS aware that Cook Farm Road was the same road as McGuire Road.

Mr. Wayne Simpson, Tax Collector, reported a collection of \$193,302.17 during the month of May.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to set July 1 at 10:00 a.m. for a Public Hearing to close a portion of Brown Road. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. Attorney Ed Parrott presented the resolution.

Jim Hicks, Tourism Committee, representing the Chamber of Commerce talked to Commissioners about how Rowan County can increase its share of money tourists are spending. His recommendation was to organize a task force to help write a charter. Recommended a representative from the city and county and one person to represent the other municipalities in the county. The Commissioners suggested that Spencer Mayor C.E. Spear, Jr. be appointed to the Committee as a representative of the other municipalities since Spencer is the home of one of the county's main tourist attraction, the Spencer Shops.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to appoint Commissioner DeMarcus as the county's representative to this task force. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Jack Owens, Chamber of Commerce asked a favor of the Commissioners to allow the serving of beer at the Rowan County fairgrounds from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on September 5 the first day of Chamberfest 85. A party just for Chamber members and their guests. No beer will be served September 6 the second day of Chamberfest 85. That day will be open to the public. Commissioner Messinger said this would be waving the rules serving beer. Mr. Owens said they had the approval of the Jaycees. Commissioner Messinger said he has no objections. Commissioner Sifford moved approval. Commissioner Messinger seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Cohen voting present.

Mr. Murdoch presented personnel. Two replacements. Ellen Maddox, Social Services Eligibility Specialist I- Salary \$892.00, replacing Lou Hamilton \$938.00. Carl L. Burch, Janitor, Salary- \$652.00- replacing Robert Brown- \$809.00.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved approval of the personnel replacements. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch reported Interest.

General Fund -	\$323,546.18
Murtis Nicholas	1,170.20
Revenue Sharing	28,344.79
Drainage	677.59
Revaluation	<u>18,561.02</u>
Total -	\$372,299.78

Mr. Murdoch reported Refunds.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve refunds for: Harry W. Bently, Amount \$44.05 - reason job was in the city of Kannapolis- For: Steele Electric - amount \$13- building collapsed have to build a new one.- For: Padgett Electric Company- \$5- They are not doing the job. For: Beaver Brothers, \$5- They are not doing the job. For Jerry Hayes/ H & B Plumbing- \$11.00- paid too much for plumbing permit- partial duplication of permits- two permits were issued for the job. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Leroy Bostian, a citizen talked to Commissioners about some problems that he has been faced with in the past and still persists. Problems involving Arson, Theft and Murder by appointment. Also, Tax Theft, which involves a piece of property being on the tax records twice in two different names which Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor will check out. Mr. Bostian said no one is willing to address these problems. Commissioner agreed that the property problem is more of a civil matter and would need to be addressed as such.

Budget Amendments. For Board of Elections, To increase accounts for cost of Kannapolis City election in May. To move \$75.00 from Board- Per Diem- account 4170-170 and \$971.40- Salaries- part-time- acct. #4170-126 into Account #3417-410- Municipal Elections- the amount of \$1,046.40.

Budget Amendment for Parks and Recreation - To budget a total of \$900 from Grass Roots that was already received on December 20, 1984. To budget for Easter Egg Hunt. To budget for unexpected repairs. Grass Roots- Acct. 6130-367 increase \$895.00 Revenues Grass Roots- Acct. 3612-330 increase- \$700.00 County App. increase- \$195.00. Park Activities- Acct. 6130-3 increase \$450.00 - Revenues Park Donations- Acct. 3390-841 increase \$450.00- Rent reproduction equipment- acct. 6130-431 decrease \$100.00- repairs to equipment- acct. 6130-352-increase- \$100.00.

Budget Amendment for Aging.- Expenditures not reversed by CPA for 1984-85 but were paid for and claimed on Aging grants for 1984-85. Need to increase their budgets to allow them to spend the grants by 6-30-85. Unappropriated fund Balance acct. #3990-991- \$906.41. Increase these account titles by these amounts. Acct. title- 111-C Site supplies- acct. # 5551-214- \$507.60- acct. title- III-C- Travel- 5551-311- \$98.82- Title III-C- 5551-323- \$32.60- Title III-C- 5551-339-\$120.00- Title III-B- 5550-340- \$5.70- Title III-B- Travel- 5550-311- \$78.95- Title III-B- Office Supplies- 5550-261- \$62.74.

Budget Amendment for Health Department- They received State/Federal additional funds through the MCH program in the

amount of \$2,383. State approval has been secured to spend these funds as follows: Hospital insurance- \$260.00, Travel for 2 PHNs- \$794.00, Equipment- - Select-A-fuge- 24 centrifuge \$834.00 and minute man voltage regulator- \$495.00.

Commissioner Sifford moved approval all of the budget amendments. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch presented bills for payment. To Division of Youth Services- for two juveniles the amount of \$150 for seventeen days and three days detention. Commissioner Messinger moved approval. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved approval for payment of \$539.44 to Jefferson Insurance Company, Claimant Don Lattimore, for unduly treatment while an inmate in the County Jail.

Also, \$1,000.00 payable to Republic Insurance Company for a non-support case against Wayne Tino. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to refund to Bill Snipes \$350 for a piece of property that he did not get a title for. In exchange he will bring us a check in the amount of \$700 for two pieces of property that he bid on and received. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Messinger moved adoption the Yadkin River Resolution proclaiming June 1985 as Yadkin River month. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. (attached)

Commissioner DeMarcus had asked the Commissioners to think about a rural police set-up. She suggested that this be a combined study along with the update (revaluation) of the Sheriff's Department. She said having law enforcement under one umbrella would be a better coordinated operation at a lower cost. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion that we ask the Institute of Government to make a study along with the Sheriff for rural police and seek information for county set-up. Commissioner Sifford seconded for discussion.

Mr. Murdoch said he had contacted Donald Hayman, personnel expert at the Institute of Government who had done a 1974 study of the Sheriff's Department and was told to contact Ron Lynch who told Mr. Murdoch that it would be October before he could do the study and quoted a cost of \$15,000 to \$20,000 and said he might not be able to do the study even in October.

Commissioner DeMarcus withdrew her motion due to cost and time and Commissioners asked David Bailey, COG to contact Lee

Armour to look into it and give them a call and maybe get started July 1 with a study.

Chairman Steele called the meeting back to order for the purpose of continuing the budget process.

Mr. Murdoch reported on Longevity and increase in service and maintenance contract pertaining to the Agricultural Extension Office. He said increase in service maintenance contract was for Mr. Caudill's copy machine- he was using this in his office supplies and transferred to supplement. This made the difference. All the agents in the Agricultural Office have longevity from the state built in their salaries- whenever we start on a 50-50 participating basis we will be paying one-half of their longevity. The secretary receives a lump sum payment each year from the state on the state's 50% salary of longevity. Mr. Murdoch recommended putting in 50% of secretary's longevity from our plan which will cut down longevity line item \$1100.

Mr. Murdoch talked with Daryl Shelby, Data Processing. He went thru all the equipment that Daryl had requested which equipment that he felt like could be incorporated this year and get people adequately trained to use it and get software done. The revised list which staggers departments comes up to \$94,921. total of buying equipment on a three year lease purchase deal plus maintenance for one year. Mr. Murdoch explained where equipment would be going what each department would be receiving after July 1, on Jan. 1, 1986 and May 1, 1986.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to accept Mr. Shelby's staggered plan for placing equipment reducing capital by \$14,308. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch said Jean Ramsey, Register of Deeds was satisfied with copier 3 and could wait until April 1 when the present one is paid for and pick up one on a lease purchase plan.

Mr. Murdoch said he took a look at the salary range of the Data Processing Supervisor in counties comfortable with Rowan County and that an additional 10%-15% would bring Mr. Shelby up with other counties in addition to the 5% across the board. Commissioner Messinger made a motion to pay Daryl Shelby the 10% increase next fiscal year in addition to the 5%. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Schools- Commissioner Cohen said he had reservations about supplement for teachers for gifted children but he would like to see line items addressed such as instructional materials, student-teacher ratio and assistant principals. Commissioner DeMarcus said they needed the Assistant Principals for Landis

and China Grove that it would be a must if we are going to keep our accreditation.

Commissioner Messinger read a letter of merger that he had prepared; and recommended supporting a minimal expansion of the school budget, including a 8% increase in the current expense category, and the same amount as last year in capital outlay, less the \$90,000 that has already been committed from next year's budget.

Commissioner Sifford said in the past or current year we appropriated to the Rowan County Schools the sum of \$4,873,174 for current operating expenses; and they will end the year with a surplus of \$700,000. He said they have asked for an increase of \$1,886,151 in dollars. His recommendation is for a 5% increase in all lines amounting to \$243,658. An added \$30,000 for instructional materials. An added \$30,000 for principal's office supplies and equipment. An added \$50,000 for two asst. principals required for recertification. An added 4.8% for the State incremental adjustment of 4.8% on locally funded salaries which is estimated at \$136,185. The total of these five adjustments would amount to \$489,843 over FY 84/85. It would equate in dollars to a 10% funding increase in the current expense total over FY84/85. He further proposes to use \$350,000 of the surplus to reach the figure of 5.3 million. This would mean an appropriation of \$5,013,017 to County schools for current expense. To place in escrow \$400,000 as a school reserve to be held by the county for the potential need in equalization of salaries if and when the Boards of Education determine that merger is the appropriate course of action and submit a viable plan for such.

Commissioner DeMarcus raised the question of usage of automobiles. The ruling from the IRS. She commented that if we take care of the Schools we should also take care of the Sheriffs and the rest of the county.

Chairman Steele said he took a positive attitude toward the schools substances increase each year and that he wanted the best education possible for our children, but he also had a responsibility to the tax payer.

Commissioner Messinger moved we authorize an increase of 8% of the total current expense budget and that we lower the capital budget figure the same as last year less \$90,000 plus we would set aside one-half million dollars- one half from surplus and one-half from tax payers- as a committment on the school merger. Commissioner DeMarcus said she would second because it shows a committment on our part. Commissioner Sifford told Commissioner Messinger that his recommendation amounted to \$480,000.00 more than what he suggested. Commissioner Messinger withdrew his motion. Commissioner DeMarcus withdrew her second. Commissioner Messinger said he would support Commissioner

Sifford's motion \$350,000- set aside in surplus, \$363,000 for teacher's supplement- another \$50,000 to escrow- bringing escrow figure to \$400,000.00 now. Commissioners voted unanimously.

Rowan Technical College- Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the current expense budget- \$675,028 as presented. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Supplemental Education Center- Three classifications- Commissioners agreed to address each one separately.- Commissioner Sifford made a motion to increase last year's allocation by 10%. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Trainable - Commissioner Cohen moved to fund at \$40,000. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Attendance Officer- Approved as is.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Emergency Management Personnel. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

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

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to delete the position of Assistant Fire Marshall. Commissioner Messinger seconded adding also to at this time, delete the capital outlay items in that budget. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to increase line item 4340.690 in the Public Safety Fire Budget appropriation to local departments- by \$3,600.00. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford moved approval the new position of Director for EOCthe budget at \$39,848. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford moved to authorize the County Manager to advertise for the position of Director of EOC. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to tie all county employee's pay increase at 3.5%. Commissioner Messinger seconded for discussion. This is all employees that the county has control over. Commissioner Cohen said this is the cost of living per cent. The motion failing with Commissioner DeMarcus, Commissioner Sifford and Chairman Steele voting against.

Commissioner Messinger moved to set the pre-payment tax rate at .44. Commissioner Sifford seconded. The motion carrying with Commissioner Cohen voting against. Commissioners agreed that this would not be a final figure. Agreed to come back on the 11th at 9:00 a.m. to go over again; and also to vote on the capital request for Baker's Creek.

There being no further business at this time, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting until June 11, at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners