

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 1, 1985

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on July 1, 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 Cohen opened with prayer.

Chairman Steele made one correction to the minutes of June 24, 1985 - 2nd. page- 8th. paragraph- to correct spelling of Carl Barker to Karl Barber - with this correction, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the minutes of June 3, 11, 19 and 24th. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

As additions to the Agenda, Commissioner Sifford requested to talk about (1) Additional appointments to the Yadkin Pee Dee Basin and (2) Faith 4th Celebration.

Monthly Reports- Commissioner DeMarcus said she had not attended any meetings because she had been too busy attending meetings on the County budget.

Chairman Steele requested to talk to Commissioners about a resolution of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners support of The Efforts of The State of North Carolina on The Lake Gaston Pipeline Project to protect the interests of county government in northeastern North Carolina by opposing the unilateral withdrawal of this water from an interstate river basin without an appropriate agreement between the two states to control such withdrawals, and agrees to the need for the preparation of a full environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act for a proposal of this magnitude.

Mr. Murdoch showed Commissioners from 50- to 75 form letters from Gold Hill residents protesting the closing of the Gold Hill voting precinct. Mrs. Nelson, Supervisor for the Board of Elections said the Gold Hill precinct cost the county too much money- \$1,800 during the past two years for 600 votes. Mrs. Nelson said \$3 (average) a vote was too high. Mr. Beaver, Chairman of the Board of Elections said there was no place for a centralized voting place.

Letter from Bachman S. Brown, Jr., Mayor of the City of Kannapolis to Sheriff Stirewalt saying effective July 1, 1985 the city of Kannapolis will assume police protection and a copy

of a letter to Chairman Steele from Mayor Brown saying effective July 1, 1985 the city of Kannapolis will provide residential garbage service.

A notice from Association of County Commissioners asking Commissioners to designate a voting delegate to the North Carolina Conference. Commissioner Messinger made a motion to designate Chairman Steele as the official voting delegate to the North Carolina Conference. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

A letter from Curtis Graham, Chairman of the Parks Board, recommending Commissioners to accept land offered by Milton and Louise Crouther for a canoe sight located at the Salisbury Pump Station. This sight will be part of the Yadkin River Canoe Trail. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to accept the land offer. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman Steele informed the Commissioners of a dedication ceremony which Thomas Rhodes, Secretary of the State of North Carolina Department of Natural Resources & Community Development had commended Rowan County for their corporative role in making this 130 mile river trail available to the citizens of the state.

Mr. Murdoch informed Commissioners of a letter of appreciation along with a check for \$200 from William Sigmon, President of the North Carolina Society of Cincinnati, for making the Community Building available for their meeting on Saturday, April 27, 1985. Mr. Murdoch told Commissioners that he had written a thank-you letter for the \$200.00.

Commissioners had received a copy of the letter of resignation from Beulah Davis from the Historical Properties Commission.

Mr. Edwin Koontz, Director of the Department of Social Services and Mrs. Glenda Long, in charge of the Emergency Food Services showed Commissioners a video film of the Emergency Food Program which had been selected to receive a 1985 Achievement Award by the National Association of Counties. This event will take place July 13-16 in Orlando, Fla. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to authorize representatives of the Department of Social Services to attend the event and to receive the Achievement Award. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to authorize the Department of Social Services to proceed with contracting by mail the Food Stamp Distribution which would amount to \$1.00 per transaction. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Wayne Simpson, Tax Collector, reported \$277,377.67 in total tax collections for the month of June.

Chairman Steele declared the public hearing open to close a portion of Brown Road. Alderman Ernest Plyler, from Granite Quarry presented a letter to Chairman Steele informing Commissioners that at the town board meeting on June 17, the Board went on record opposing closing Brown Road at this time. They said this road lies between their present city limits and at this same meeting their board approved a Resolution of Intent to annex these properties. They felt that they might need to utilize this road as a city street and needed time to study these possibilities. Mr. McKinney who had requested that this portion of Brown Road be closed, said blood-kin lived on this road and there was no opposition. There being no one else to speak, Chairman Steele declared the public hearing closed. Commissioner Cohen made a motion to defer closing this road until August 5, 1985 at 10 a.m. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to move the authorization of placing Senator Paul Smith as the public official on the Pee Dee Basin Board of Directors to replace Robie Nash who had been moved into the private sector of this commission. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford moved to reappoint Mr. Allen Mitchell and Rev. Jimmy Thompson for three year terms to the County Domiciliary Home Community Advisory Committee. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners agreed to defer reappointments to the Region F. Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council until the position of Emergency Services Director is filled.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to reappoint Mr. Robert Thomas and Mrs. Maria Seiwel for two year terms to the Region F Aging Advisory Committee. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners agreed to defer appointments to the Centralina Private Industry Council.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to reappoint Mr. R.O. Everett and Hall Steele to the Centralina Certified Development Corporation. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford moved authorization to appoint Mr. Phil Harbinson and Mr. Tommy Kerns to the Granite Quarry Planning Board and Mr. Wilford Brown and Mr. John Napier to

their Zoning Board of Adjustment as Extraterritorial Members. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Rick Boutilier, EMT Crew Chief with REMAS told Commissioners that they were ready to have the 1st. responders guidelines approved. That a meeting had been held with all the fire chiefs and had Dr. Gary Fink from Faith to sit in on the medical aspects of it. Section 8- Paragraph 4 was specifically brought out - which reads - "Upon arriving at the scene of the emergency, the senior member on the ambulance crew shall assume control of the victim care at the emergency scene." Commissioner Sifford commented on the delivery of the baby by REMAS and said this was one of the important reasons for setting qualified standards- incorporating a level of medical confidence in REMAS.

Mr. Joe Sulkowski, REMAS Director said mast trousers had been implemented in their program.

Captain Haupt, Sheriff's Department, explained to Commissioners that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and Alcoa were setting up new Wake Zone notices at various spots in the County for the prevention of accidents. Mr. Haupt said he had to give public notice before approval. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to authorize publication of notices for 1-I-85 Bridge at Yadkin River, 2- Goodman Lake Road Bridge at Crane Creek- 3- Tamaric Marina at Dutch Second Creek- 4- Bringleferry Road Bridge at Dutch Second Creek- 5-Stokesferry Road Bridge at Riles Creek and 6- Highway 49 Bridge at Tuckertown Lake. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus told Mr. Haupt that the Board would like to hear a report from the River Deputy. Mr. Haupt said that could be arranged.

Mr. Murdoch told Commissioners that he had received a memo from the Association of County Commissioners regarding State Budget- Key items- the main Appropriations Bill for 1985-87 which has received approval from the Joint Appropriations Committee and has passed the Senate. The House is expected to act by the end of this week. 1) Certified Public School Employees- Not eligible for 5% cost of living increase 2- automatic increments based on years of service for employees with 1- 2 years of service- two 1/2 steps (4.8%)- For employees with 2 plus years of service- Four 1/2 steps (9.6%) The maximum raise for certified employees will be 9.6%.- Non-Certified Public School Employees- Eligible for 5% COLA- Eligible for two 1/2 step increments only effective July 1, 1985-(NOT eligible for four 1/2 steps)-Plus minimum monthly salary of \$758 must be met.

II. Jordan - Adams Funds

The proposed budget includes appropriations to continue last year's 10% salary increase and to provide the state's share of this year's (1985-86) 5% cost - of - living salary increase in jointly funded human resource programs. Also, state funds are included to pay for a 2.4% inflationary increase in non-salary items. Funds will be allocated directly to the local human resource agencies.

III. Public School Appropriations

1. Reduce Class Size in Grades 7-9 (1,357 teaching positions) Grades 7 and 8: reduce pupil/teacher ratio from 1:30 to 1:26. Grade 9: reduce pupil/teacher ratio from 1:30 to 1:27 \$32.9 million in F.Y. 1985-86.

State fund school finance officer starting on January 1, 1986. One position will be funded in each county. \$1.6 million in F.Y. 1985-86. If there is more than one finance officer in Rowan County Schools or Salisbury City Schools- the state will only fund one.

Enrollment- ADM- 10,000 to 14,999 will fund up to \$30,000.

Additional Assistant Principals (55 positions) \$1.6 million in F.Y. 1985-86

State law requires assistant principals in schools with 25 or more state-paid teachers. These 55 positions are linked to additional teaching positions for Grades 7-9.

Additional Instructional Aides in Grades K-3 (230 positions) \$2.2 million in F.Y. 1985-86.

Funds to assure that every K-3 class with a state-paid teacher also has an aide.

Drop-out Prevention Counselors (534 positions) \$13.7 million in F.Y. 1985 - 86

These positions are earmarked for drop-out prevention in high schools, junior highs, and middle schools. Positions will be allotted as follows:

1 position for each school system (142 positions)
remaining positions on the basis of ADM in
appropriate grades (7-12)

Additional Transportation Workers (50 drivers, 4 mechanics) \$295,759 in F.Y. 1985 - 86

Allotments based on additional authorized buses operated by local boards of education.

Continuation of Equipment Funding in 1985 - 86

Vocational Education Equipment - \$2.6 million (\$5 per ADM Grades 7-12)

Math/Science Materials and Equipment - \$5.2 million

Grades K-6: \$2.00 per ADM

Grades 7-12: \$2.50 per ADM for Math

Grades 7-8: \$4.50 per ADM for Science

Grades 9-12: \$6.00 per ADM for Science

Computer equipment, supplies - \$12.5 million

Allotted on basis of ADM: Grades - 4-12

Summer School (Remedial) - \$5.3 million

Allotted on the basis of students in Grades 3,6 and 8 requiring remediation.

Prior/Projected Enrollment Funding Option - \$5.9 million in F.Y. 1985-86

School System will receive state funds on either the basis of last year's ADM or projected ADM, whichever is higher.

Louis Hamlin, Attorney told Commissioners that the county had been sued by Forum Insurance for the collection of attorney fees and amounts paid in two previous lawsuits---that somebody owes Forum Insurance Company \$5,000. Commissioner Messinger made a motion for the board to go into Executive Session to discuss this litigation matter. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion for the board to come out of Executive Session and back into Regular session. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to authorize legal council to negotiate with Forum Insurance and come back to this board for approval. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch read 1985-86 Budget Ordinance to Commissioners for approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve the 1985-86 Budget Ordinance with the exception of Section 19 -South Salisbury Fire District rate, Number 22- Franklin and Number 26 Ellis Cross Roads. The fire commission had not approved the tax increases for these three fire districts. Mr. Sifford said he knew the fire commission would be meeting tonight. An intrium budget for these three fire departments could be approved in order for expenditures of bills and Commissioners could approve

the rest of the budget. Chairman Steele recommended adjourning for lunch and asked Finance Director, Tim Russell if he would call the three fire commissioners and ask them to hold an emergency meeting to make their decision. Commissioner Sifford withdrew his motion..

Mr. Murdoch reported Personnel replacements: Mike Andrews-Landfill - salary- \$752.00 monthly replacing Lawrence Miller at \$892.00. Christal Bowden - Veterans Office- salary - \$717.00- replacing Doris Rose- \$829.00. Phyllis Cornelison- Park -salary - \$938.00 replacing Carol Foltz- \$963.00. Betty Farmer-Tax Clerk - Salary - \$668.00- replacing Joyce Matthews - at \$963.00. James Thompson - EMT - salary - \$1,036 monthly -replacing Gray Hillard- at \$1,036. Bobbie Earnhardt- new position- Register of Deeds- salary - \$771.00 - Jake M. Shaver-New position - Inspector- salary - \$1,260.00 monthly. Gwendolyn Corriher - Emergency Management Office- Clerk-Typist II - salary - \$734.00 monthly- replacing - Marian Johnson at \$752.00. Frances Maxine McGinnis- DSS Clerk-Typist IV- salary - \$938.00 replacing Sara Childers- at \$871.00 . Steven Fink- Social Worker II- salary - \$1,291.00- replacing Christine Cahoon at \$1,323.00. Jennie Craddock- Cottage Parent Supervisor- \$871-replacing Jean Huneycutt at \$1,036.00.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the personnel. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve the request from Mr. Edwin Koontz, Social Services Director to start a Clerk Typist III at the 4th step (9948). She has 4 1/2 years' experience with another human services agency and is familiar with the terminology. This position is budgeted for \$10,200. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

At this time, Commissioner Messinger made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a matter of personnel. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

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

Commissioners took no action while in Executive Session.

Mr. Murdoch reported Interest:

General Fund	- \$381,433.87
Revenue Sharing	44,584.88
Revaluation	20,175.25
Drainage	835.41
Murtis Nicholas	<u>1,275.46</u>
Total -	\$448,304.87

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to authorize Chairman Steele to sign the agreement with Forestry Service for a total-\$52,000 which the County pays \$20,800 and the State appropriation is \$31,200. Effective July 1, 1985. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford moved for the county to continue Soil Survey in Rowan County at \$19,000 from July 1 to June 30, 1986. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Due to an oversight, County Manager recommended holding the public hearing on name of change of road for Cook Farm Road the Commissioners Regular meeting in August which will be August 5, 1985 at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Sifford moved the public hearing on that day. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch presented a budget amendment to appropriate funds from Reserve accounts for expenses for special purposes for the Department of Social Services. To increase by \$907.00 accounts 5310-498- Non-secure detention- and 3543-001-revenues-state- to increase by \$36,291.00- accounts 5830-649-CBA payments to schools- and 3559-005- CBA Revenues- to increase by \$276.00- accounts- 5551-317- Travel-VISTA - 3583-235- Revenues-VISTA. Commissioner Sifford moved approval. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve a budget amendment for the Office on Aging- Title V account- Local cash received from the Family Crisis Council which displaces In-Kind training as part of local required match for the Title V Program. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval. (attached)

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve the budget amendment which balances out contributions to the General Fund from Revenue Sharing for operating expenses which are distributed to various accounts as follows: Account Title- telephone system- new- #4115-322- \$24,768.37- Capital Outlay- other equipment- 4260-550- \$16,042.36- Repair and maint. bldg.- 4260-351- \$30,994.56- Repair equipment- 4260-352- \$6,161.27 and electricity- 4260-331- \$22,033.44- total- \$100,000.00. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sifford and seconded by Commissioner DeMarcus the following budget transfers were approved: from 4115-123 merit increases, \$687.00 to 4120, Manager-Finance; \$15,000.00 to 4371 Public Safety-Ambulance; \$12,762.00 to 4210 Data Processing; \$11,356.00 to 4710 Sanitation; \$3,637.22 to 5310 Social Services. From 5110-332 Fuel Oil \$8,500.00 to 4260 Public Buildings. From 5110-127 Salaries Longevity \$7,171.00 to 4371 Public Safety-Ambulance.

From 4115-185 Unemployment Compensation \$1,272.38. From 4115-322 Telephone System, \$633.00 to 4120, Manager-Finance, \$273.00 to 5820 Veterans Service; \$6,828.00 to 4371 Public Safety Ambulance. From 4115-325 Postage \$700.00 to 4120, Manager-Finance ; \$1,799.00 to 4950 Agriculture Extension; \$3,286.00 to 4371 Public Safety-Ambulance ; \$4,877.25 to 4115 Other Governmental. From 4115-990 Contingency Regular \$2,596.00 to 4110 Governing Body; \$7,281.79 to 4160 Court Facilities; \$12,263.21 to 4260 Public Buildings; \$12,592.00 to 4210 Data Processing. From 4115-991 Contingency ABC \$2,180.00 to 4360 Public Safety Medical Examiner; \$5,658.00 to 4371 Public Safety-Ambulance.

Commissioner Sifford moved to table the request from Norfolk-Southern Railways for support in its bid to the federal government to take over the Conrail system. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. The motion failing with Commissioners Messinger, Cohen and Chairman Steele voting against.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to adopt the Railroad Resolution supporting Norfolk-Southern. Commissioner Messinger seconded. Commissioners Sifford and DeMarcus voting against. The motion passing with Chairman Steele voting I.

Commissioner DeMarcus called this request self-serving for Norfolk-Southern. Commissioner Sifford said the decision was in the hands of a certain branch of the federal government and should be left there. Commissioner Cohen said Norfolk-Southern serves Rowan County.

Commissioner Sifford told Commissioners that space at the Faith 4th celebration had been reserved for them and asked who wanted to ride- He said he needed to make arrangements with Mr. Fahnestock for the van.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion that we accept Fire Commission's decision to enter into the budget .01 rate increase for Franklin which would read 3 1/2 cents, .07 for Ellis, and .04 for S. Salisbury. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion that we adopt the 1985-86 Budget Ordinance as amended to section 22. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Discussion followed- with Commissioner Cohen offering a substitute motion to lower the pay increases that we have control over to cost of living index 3.5 a net deduction of \$78,000 to the budget. Commissioner Messinger seconded. The substitute motion failing with Commissioners Sifford, DeMarcus and Chairman Steele voting against.

Commissioner Sifford's motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance with the amendment to 22 carried with Commissioner Cohen voting against.(attached)

Commissioner Sifford said he would have supported Commissioner Cohen's substitute motion if it had been suggested before County employees learned of the proposed 5% raise. He said, "he had problems handing them a raise, then taking it away."

The board also discussed raising building inspection fees to make the Codes Enforcement office self-supporting.

Personnel Matter- Commissioner Messinger made a motion for this commission to change the job classification of Robert Gunn as Emergency Management Director to County Fire Marshall effective when the Emergency Services Director is hired. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to pass to the State the Resolution of support of the efforts of the State of North Carolina on the Lake Gaston Pipeline Project by substituting - North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to read Rowan County Board of Commissioners and authorization of the signature of Chairman of Board of Rowan County Commissioners. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Murdoch told Commissioners they needed to set procedures and time for the selection of an Emergency Services Director. He recommended that the personnel advisory committee select the most qualified applicants to be screened by the full board of Commissioners. Commissioners set Tuesday, July 23, at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting until July 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners