

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 7, 1986

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on April 7, 1986 at 9:00 A.M. The following members were present: Commissioner Jamima DeMarcus, Commissioner Harry Sifford, Commissioner Richard Messinger, Commissioner J. Newton Cohen and Chairman Hall Steele.

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

Minutes of March 10- Pg. 5- Commissioner DeMarcus questioned the date for the Liquor-By-The-Drink referendum; if not a second primary what would be the plan- Advocates said they would pay for it- Clarence Kluttz, County Attorney reported back on this and said- the committee did not set a date- Board of Election sets the date. Set for June 3. Whether there is a second primary or not. Commissioner DeMarcus said she never intended for the county to pay for a special election. Commissioner Messinger said, "neither did I." Page 4- second paragraph- Commissioner Sifford said to change the spelling of sale to sell. Commissioner Sifford moved approval of the minutes of March 10. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. Commissioner DeMarcus moved approval the minutes of March 13. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval. Minutes of March 20, Page 2, 3rd. paragraph- to show Commissioner Messinger addressing the Senior Citizens Center to remain steady until Commissioners have talked and can do an assessment of the studies for a Center. Commissioner Sifford moved approval the minutes of March 20. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

As additions to the Agenda: Commissioner DeMarcus asked to talk about a Personnel Director and Wiley School. . Commissioner Messinger to discuss a letter received from Colonial Dan concerning the Hanford House.

Monthly Reports: Commissioner DeMarcus informed the Commissioners that she had attended the City's meeting and that they did not accept the Human Relations Council Ordinance that they questioned hearing grievances and complaints by the Committee. Maybe, she said we acted too hastily. Commissioner DeMarcus said the city covered three major areas- employees, housing and education and discussed the recent Klan activities. Commissioner DeMarcus stated that the Historic Properties

Commission was planning for the county's 233rd birthday on April 12, 1986. Report on Parks and Recreation- Site for Log House. Special Population- Renita working with all groups- has 600 participants now and more requests are coming in. Sloan Park-Corn is being ground- Attendance for March was 1,153. Nature Center working on the new barn- Ellis Park- working in ceramics and wood - <Library is working on promotional material for their bond issue. Rowan Tech making available adult basic educational plan; and also, Rowan Tech is administering a job readiness program for prisoners leaving the high-rise.

Commissioner Messinger reported that he had met with Mr. Mobley, Rowan County Schools in regard to budgets. Mr. Messinger said that a requested 15-20% increase is an unrealistic figure for the County School Budget.

Commissioner Sifford said he had attended several seminars on updating health matters and working with their budget. He said a report from Bob Amos stated that the city of Kannapolis should become a participating unit in the South Rowan Park. Mr. Sifford said the title of property should be transferred to the City of Kannapolis. Chairman Steele asked Commissioner DeMarcus to follow thru with contacting the Cabarrus-Rowan Park Commission to explore to see what Kannapolis will do.

Commissioner Sifford told Commission that he had attended, as liaison, to the Mayor's Council on persons with disabilities and that they had adopted by-laws and elected officers- Doug Rice to chair the council.

Chairman Steele reporting on the Department of Social Services report, said the office heard from Scott Uzzell who had done an office inspection and had pointed out that the agency is still out of compliance due to overcrowded conditions. Chairman Steele said they are in the process of proceeding as quickly as possible in moving the DSS people to the new county office building. Commissioner Cohen made a motion that the county manager contact Doug Tennent, Architect to negotiate a contract for preliminary work for remodeling the County Office Building for Department of Social Services. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen reported that funds for the Community Service Council were drying up and programs were being curtailed.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve a road petition for Yount Drive located in Graham Place Subdivision off Sherrills Ford Road in Steele Township. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve a road Abandonment Petition signed by Richard W. Adams and Margaret Adams, owners along the last 0.58 miles dead end portion, of Campbell Bridge Road (SR 1979). Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Wayne Simpson, Tax Collector, reported total deposit for March-\$268,662.16. Said that advertising delinquents will be made on two Mondays, April 14th. and 28th. Gross for the 16 working days period in March for Ambulance Fee collections amounted to \$17,543.78.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to authorize the Tax Collector to bill and collect Schedule B, Beer and Wine Licenses for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 1986, and June 1, 1986 respectively. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. (attached)

Mr. Clyde Fahnestock, Office on Aging, informed Commissioners that he had received two sealed bids for the Catering Service to the Nutrition Program. (1) Service America-bid price \$1.9991 and McCabes Restaurant - \$1.79 bid price-which represents 21cents less per meal than the Service America bid. Mr. Fahnestock's recommendation is to award the food contract to McCabe's Restaurant, the lowest bidder. County Attorney, Clarence Kluttz, questioned how much insurance would McCabe's provide. Commissioners deferred until they could hear about the insurance coverage.

Mr. Tom Bost, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Library asked Commissioners to authorize advertisement for Architects who might be interested in their expansion project. The county would not be obligated for ad costs. County Manager told Commissioners that they would have to have bids before bonds are sold. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to authorize the Library to advertise for Architectural interest in their expansion project. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager told Commissioners that County employees were being asked to participate in the 12 miles March of Dimes Teamwalk Challenge 1986- April 19, 1986 and asked them to participate.

County Manager informed Commissioners that he had received a letter from Hilda Palmer, Clerk, Town of Spencer thanking them for their courtesy of seeing her and Mayor Spears at their Board meeting on March 13, and noted that they were pleased with their support of their proposed water and sewer projects for the Northern end of Spencer.

A letter from John Cadwallader, President, Chamber of Commerce requesting that the county do a study for Countywide Police force. Mr. Russell said a meeting has been set for May 16 at night- and that Municipalities would be invited.

A letter from NACO- concerning District Meeting for Association District 12 Wednesday April 16, 6:30 P.M. at Western Sizzlin Steakhouse in Concord. Giving Commissioners a change to update their critical needs. Also, Mr. Russell mentioned to Commissioners a NACO conference set for July 12 thru 15th. in Las Vegas.

A letter from Gardner Gidly and Associates concerning cost estimates and plans for expansion at Sloan Park.

Commissioner Messinger informed Commissioners of a letter received from Colonial Dan, Ms. James A. Sparks in support of the Hanford Log House. They are encouraging the Commissioners to pursue the moving of the log house.

Letter received from Town of Landis requesting a portion of the Grants to Local Governments for water and sewer funding.

Letter received from City of Kannapolis requesting approval of a Resolution to transfer to the City of Kannapolis a portion of its suballocation of State funds for water and sewer projects.

Commissioner Messinger recommended that the County Manager summarize the Municipality requests for funds for water and sewer and to contact the rest of them to receive their needs.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion that any unused funds from County allocation be adverted to municipalities to be used on a

per capita basis. Died for the lack of a second. Commissioners agreed to take as advise and look at it again later.

A letter from Cannon Memorial Young Men's Christian Association and Community Center, Kannapolis, William Fesperman, Executive Director requesting that Commissioners fund the Senior Center operated by Cannon Memorial YMCA and Community Center, Inc.- \$8,274.00. Chairman Steele recommended that this be further investigated.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a matter of litigation. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval. Commissioner Sifford made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. No action was taken while in Executive Session.

Wayne Ashworth, Emergency Management Director requested that Commissioners change the name of the county's emergency medical service to Rowan County Emergency Medical Service. Commissioner Cohen made a motion to delay official action until next month. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved to approve the Resolution supporting improvements on Salisbury Blvd. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval. Commissioner DeMarcus recommended that the County Manager write a cover letter to send with the resolution.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve a resolution calling for a special merger referendum in the Kannapolis Sanitary District, the Royal Oaks Sanitary District and the City of Kannapolis on Tuesday, June 3, 1986 to be held between 6:30 and 7:30 P.M. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval. Commissioner Sifford said he was doing this in good faith that the County Manager had been sent copies of requests from the Sanitary Districts.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the KanLaCon Resolution. Commissioner Messinger seconded. Mr. Mike Byrd said all KanLaCon areas had to be approved before the grant can be approved. The motion was voted on unanimously.

Board appointments.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to appoint Mrs. Winifred P. Queen as Dorothy Ellis's replacement on the Nursing Home Advisory Committee. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to re-appoint John Steele and Harold Marioneaux to the Nursing Home Advisory Committee. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to reappoint Dr. Bryant Norman, Jr., as an extraterritorial alternate for a three-year term on the City of Salisbury Zoning Board of Adjustment. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen moved the appointments of Rikki Spencer and Barron Moore to serve as extraterritorial members on the City of Salisbury Planning Board. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to reappoint Mr. Larry Maynor III as an extraterritorial member of the Spencer Planning Board for a three-year-term. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners deferred the extra three appointments to the Human Relations Council (Good Neighbor Council).

County Manager reported Interest:

General Fund.....	\$362,069
Revenue Sharing.....	39,283
Myrtis Nicholas.....	842
Drainage.....	336
Revaluation.....	
	\$414,730

Commissioner Sifford moved approval the following personnel for March, 1986. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

James D. Coleman  
Campground Director  
Parks and Recreation- New Position

Scott M. Whaley- Sheriff's Dept. -  
replacing Shane Woodson- monthly salary- \$1,036

Ruby C. Miller- E.M.T.-  
replacing- Mary Thrower at \$1,088- monthly

Timothy Drew- Parks  
replacing William Lewis at \$752

Lona B. Elkins- Aging Office  
replacing Francis Ketchie at \$5.11/hr.

Thomas M. Lane- Sheriff's Office  
replacing Wright Stirewalt at \$1,171

Barbara Karriker- Sheriff's Office  
replacing Doris Trexler- at \$850

Commissioner DeMarcus remarked that new employees should be sure to read and sign the personnel policy.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved the following refunds.  
Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval: For REMAS the amount of \$306.00. Refund to Nancy Kay Holler the amount of \$25.84 for paying taxes in two counties. Refund to Jacob Eli Fisher, III the amount of \$145.29 for paying taxes on property he no longer owned. Refund to Sonny Lewis Trexler the amount of \$122.61 for paying taxes on property that he no longer owned.

County Manager informed Commissioners of a letter from John Syria, N.C. Dept. of Human Resources, Raleigh concerning reduction of funds in the cost of administering the Child Support Enforcement Program (Title IV-D). It has been reduced from 70% to 66.65%. This changes the county participation rate from 30% to 33.35%. Chairman Steele instructed the Clerk to the Board to go back to the minutes of the County Commissioners and pull the Resolution that said reductions in federal funds will not be made up by Rowan County.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve two budget amendments for the Health Department. (1) To allocate additional funds from State because of increased patient caseload in WIC Program to cover additional salary and fringe benefit expense due to merit increases and additional temporary part-time Public Health Nurse. Increase salaries \$2,240, FICA, Retirement, Hospital insurance, worker's comp., educational supplies, Capital Outlay/Other and Revenues-WIC- Decrease clinic, lab. med. sup. and office supplies- and (2) WIC- decrease travel, telephone, postage, reserve for merit and repair to equipment by \$2,500.00. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

From the Health Department, a letter proposing to establish and maintain an In-Home Infant/Toddler Seat Loaner Program. To supplement/expand the current Infant Seat Loaner Program sponsored by the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Commissioner DeMarcus recommended not approving this until a change in the wording has been corrected which pertains to the weight of the child. The Health Department will not include seats for infants- up to 20 lbs. - but toddler seats- 20 to 40 lbs. The sorority furnishes seats for infants up to 20 lbs.

Payment of bills- For 12 days in January, 1986 three juveniles at \$180.00. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve paying the bill. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager told Commissioners that he had received the lease agreement on the property for National Guard.

Received the Airport Master Plan for Airport Improvement Grant of \$47,997 and needed authorization in order to return it by May 5, 1986. Commissioner Sifford moved that the chairman be authorized to sign the grant application. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

After the meeting of the Board of Equilization and Review- Chairman Steele called the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners back to order and opened with Aaron Moss, Rowan Advocates for Mentally Ill. Mr. Moss said the State did not allocate funds that they needed help with housing the mentally

ill and the services of case managers. Ms. Carter said the mentally ill needed a support systems- and that they could reach a productive life with help. Ms. Charlotte Gardner, Representative, said Rowan County runs last per capita disbursements to mentally ill and asked that Commissioners consider upgrading their request- that Rowan County deserves better. Mr. Carter said the Carter House has reduced re-admission to Broughton; and that Tri-County Mental Health Center would be making a request with information in their 1986-87 budget. Commissioner Sifford said he hoped that the State could give us funds to use where problems exist not as a designated area.

About 38 citizens representing Knollwood Acres appeared before Commission requesting help in stopping a proposed Trailer Park in their neighborhood. Mr. Dennis Redfern in presenting the proposal said they were upset with the proposed 89 trailers being moved into their area. Commissioner Sifford explained to Mr. Redfern that the county does not have zoning and could not enforce it. Mr. Redfern said they needed counsel from Commissioners as to what can be done to help them to deal with such a high-density, poorly planned and irresponsible development.

Carl Lee Smith, resident told Commissioners that there was a great deal of fear in their community as to what assurance they will have in knowing that the quality of their neighborhood will be kept high.

Frances Smith, resident said she has lived there 38 yrs. and never had problems with vandalism until some trailers moved in last year; and has had corn stolen from her fields- she said it took the Sheriff's Department 6-8- hrs. to respond.

Commissioner Cohen recommended that the Commissioners monitor this situation and anything that is not within the law will be followed thru by letter from Commission.

Pat Majors, Scotch Irish Volunteer Fire Department District told Commissioners their problem was money. Their budget is \$25,986 and Mr. Majors said there is no way we can come up with that kind of money- not even thru fund raisers. He said they could not get participation in the community, not even from

those who use their services. He told Commissioners that they needed an assessment of some sort; and that they (the Commissioners) were the people who could get it for them.

Commissioner Messinger said it has always been their policy to allow citizens to sign a petition and vote. Rowan County could set a fire district tax two ways; by request from citizens if 35% of the free-holders sign a petition asking for it; or by Commission vote after a public hearing on the issue./

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to call for a Public Hearing and on (Commissioner's) own- decide about tax for Scotch Irish. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval. Commissioner Messinger asked Mr. Majors to supply Commissioners with a complete budget in order to talk intelligently about their needs- and to explain this to his people; and directed Fire Marshall to contact other fire districts who would be interested and request that they take the same procedure. County Attorney was asked to look up the laws in order to levy a tax.

County Manager told Commissioners that Owen Kugel needed a 90-120 day extension on the old P.O. Bldg. Commissioner Cohen recommended that Mr. Kugle have money-up-front and pay all utilities since we vacated and one-half the rent we might could consider a 120 day extension. Commissioner Messinger recommended giving a 90 day extension and a substantial amount of money up front.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to ask for \$25,000 up front and 90 day extension. Commissioner Messinger seconded and added to give a two week time limit for money. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to authorize Southern Bell to draw up the necessary papers for subscriber Balloting for 9-1-1. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager presented to Commissioners a time table for the 1986-87 budget process.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to allow all county employees a 10% salary increase, conversion to 40-hr. work week and assume the total share of the hospitalization premium for

the employees coverage. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Leave Policies- Commissioner Sifford made a motion to accept the Proposed Annual leave for all employees- as opposed to two distinct leave policies. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

#### Deferred Military Leave

Conversion of Bi-Weekly Payroll To Semi-Monthly Payroll. Commissioner Sifford made a motion that come July 1 we move to a Semi-Monthly payroll. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager informed Commissioners that they would need to hire two-part-time employees to put in data for 9-1-1. (deferred)

County Manager informed Commissioners that a crew was being sent once a week to clean up dumpster area at Martin-Marietta-Cleveland- and that a Supervisor was needed part/time.

#### Deferred Draft of Ambulance Ordinance- (3rd. draft)

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to start the process of advertising for a personnel director. Commissioner Cohen seconded. Chairman Steele said he would have to vote against it now- in order for new County Manager and New Finance Director to get in place. Commissioner Sifford said we don't know if we are going to be able to sell the old P.O. bldg. or not and might have to come up with the \$300,000 on the Agric. Bldg. and also the extra salary increases for employees will have to be considered. Commissioner Messinger said he tended to support Chairman Steele's recommendation. Commissioner Cohen said he hated to put the motion up and be defeated that he would withdraw his second and bring it up around budget time. Commissioner DeMarcus withdrew her motion. Commissioner Cohen made a motion to bring it up around budget time. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Demarcus made a motion that the first floor of Wiley School be designated as a Senior Citizens Center and that

the \$68,000 grant thru COG be used for renovations of equipment and furnishings and that the Rowan County Department of Aging be located in Wiley School and that \$30,000 plus, \$5,000 rent be allocated in next year's budget for the operation of a center.

Commissioner Messinger said he was supportive of helping in establishing a center- that he would be in support of paying some of their operating expenses, rent- and help over and above, but would like to see something come to us what they propose to do- that he hated to committ the whole first floor- he said they needed specifics- motion died for the lack of a second.

Commissioner Messinger said "Let them come back to us saying how they will organize it - ask county to help- with x-number of dollars and if reasonable, we will vote for it- they not done gut work".

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Chairman Steele said "we could do a resonable amount based on proposal".

Commissioner Cohen asked board if it would be in order to honor the late Sheriff. Chairman Steele asked County Manager to draft something up.

Chairman Steele recommended asking members of the North Rowan Basketball Team to attend their next meeting to present them with a plaque.

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners