

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING
JUNE 30, 1986

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building on June 30, 1986 at 9:00 A.M. The following members were present: Commissioner Harry Sifford, Commissioner J. Newton Cohen, Commissioner Jamima DeMarcus, Commissioner Richard Messinger and Chairman Hall Steele.

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

Chairman Steele said a Special Meeting had been called for the benefit of the two service districts that were approved; Gold Hill and Woodleaf. Three Fire Commissioners were appointed for each district. They had to have time to function and a special meeting was called to accept their recommendations and add it to the County Budget Ordinance which has not been passed yet and suppose to be passed this morning. Chairman Steele said what he and the Commissioners thought would be a five minute meeting has turned into a lot longer, Instead of one Agenda item he said they would need to take up the Buoy matter, several Fire Chiefs present to present a matter and people representing Anchor Downs.

Anchor Downs First on the Agenda. Mr. David Fraley, Larry Gobble, Fire Chief Miller's Ferry, and Robert Gunn, Fire Marshall were present to talk to Commissioners. Mr. Fraley, Anchor Downs area had collected signatures from residents in the Anchor Downs area to be added at Miller Ferry's present tax rate to that fire district. Two-hundred signatures were collected. Mr. Gunn said they have been working three years on this trying to be included. Mr. Gunn said some of the citizens of Anchor Downs have contributed to Miller's Ferry in helping to buy equipment. They would now like to receive the rating for insurance purposes in order to reduce their annual premium for fire protection in that area. The Board of Directors have signed an agreement accepting but the fire commissioner for that particular district has three fire commissioners two of which signed and one not and the Statutes read that it has to be unanimous. Mr. Gobble told Commissioners that they had to make a move to get Anchor Downs within the five mile radius and without funds they could not make this kind of committment. Commissioner Messinger verified their problem which is to either build a satilite station or move the present one. Mr. Fraley told Commissioners that he had met with the Board of the Fire Department and Mr. Gunn and told them that he would have a list of signatures within 30 days and was told that he would have to get 30%. He got 190 signatures which eliminated going

thru the voting process. He said Mr. Gunn had assured him that everything was alright. It had been 78 days and he said he did not know there was a problem until Saturday, the 28th of June. He said he was upset not getting this done that one acre of land had been donated to them and they have been able to raise \$600 in donations. Mr. Gunn said he told Chairman Steele and Commissioner Messinger about the problem with 10 or 12 days to spare, but that they could not get the fire commissioner to agree to the tax either. Mr. Gunn waited too long to tell them there was more red tape in the preventing the move before the new fiscal tax year begin July 1. Commissioner Messinger said the Board could not impose their will when fact is they must follow certain procedures. Commissioner DeMarcus said she would like as a board to ask this member who is saying no to reconsider. . Commissioner Messinger recommended obtaining a list of property owners and draft a letter to them asking for their consideration.

Mr. Clyde Richards, Chief of China Grove Fire Department, Norvie Bonds, Locke and David Fisher, Granite Quarry asked for clarification on behalf of the transfer of Robert Gunn, Fire Marshall to the Codes Enforcement Office where he will begin fire prevention violation inspections on July 1. Mr. Bonds said 11 of 14 fire chiefs attending a recent firemen association meeting signed a petition saying they supported Mr. Gunn as fire marshal. Mr. Richards asked who would be the fire marshal after midnight tonight(June 30). Chairman Steele said the position will be open, and the county will advertise for Mr. Gunn's replacement.

Commissioner Sifford moved approval the recommendation of Mr. Harold Caudill, County Farm Extension Supervisor, to hire Karen Cooper Cornegay as Farm Agent. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman Steele said no action had been taken concerning Scotch-Irish Service District and now the floor was open for discussion. Several residents in that district were present. Mr. Kenneth Waller said he had served as fire officer 20 years ago and was familiar with the operation and people. He had gotten up a petition with 319 signatures on it in favor of a fire tax or 84% of the petitioners. A budget of \$16,350 with a .04 fire tax they would fall short of approximate \$5,000 which Commissioners agreed they could operate on.

Mr. Fred Snyder, a Cool Springs Road resident, complained about not being contacted about the petition. He said some of the signatures on the petition were duplicates and one person lived in Davie County. He was told that person owned property there but lived in Davie. Commissioner Messinger said at this point, not to argue about it that it was better than it was that everyone would like to have fire protection and if they could come up with a compromise, the Commissioners will provide it.

Chairman Steele made several proposals to attach to the fire tax to make it easier for the residents of Cool Springs Road: (1) Some of the residents could be moved to the Rowan-Iredell fire district after one year if they still wanted to go. (2) The fire commission for the district should include "three or four hard-nosed business people, (3) residents would obtain signatures of 35% of the resident landowners in the district calling for a referendum on the fire tax.

County Attorney Kluttz said that the Commissioners could not impose a fire tax with conditions. Chairman Steele said he hoped that a gentlemen's agreement could be reached.

County Manager, Tim Russell read the resolution for establishing a fire tax district for Scotch Irish. Commissioner Sifford moved the adoption of the resolution for the adoption of a fire tax for Scotch Irish. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. The motion passing with Commissioner Cohen voting against, Chairman Steele voting against and Commissioner Messinger voting for.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to appoint H.T. Hall, Jr. as a Fire Commissioner for Scotch Irish. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to appoint Phil Young as Fire Commissioner for Scotch-Irish.. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. The motion passing with Chairman Steele voting against.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to appoint Clyde Lippard as a Fire Commissioner for Scotch-Irish. Commissioner Sifford seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners will have to adjourn this meeting until 7:30 tonight in order to receive recommendations from the newly appointed fire commissioners concerning the amount of fire tax for their district in order to adopt the new county ordinance.

Chairman Steele said a year ago the Wildlife people made a recommendation that we put buoys in certain places for safety reasons and during that time two more buoys were added to the list because of the petition and not correctly placed and those

two buoys were not listed in the advertisement as were the other buoys.

County Attorney said since the buoys were improperly placed the Wildlife people should be notified before they are removed.

Chairman Steele recommended that since they were not listed in our advertisement, we put them in at our discretion and can remove them at our discretion. To cooperate with Davidson County within the next few months to come up with a late policy that buoys can and will be placed at certain places for certain reasons and that by next spring this will be in place and the policy will be in place and everyone will understand the policy.

Commissioner Sifford moved that this matter be re-referred to the Wildlife Commission and to the appointed committee for a definitive policy and placement of buoys be held in abase until such policy evolves. Mr. Sifford explained that there was no legal reason why those buoys could not be removed or they could be left there. He said there were some buoys placed and had not been authorized by Commissioners and as far as they were concerned not being enforced. Commissioner Messinger seconded this motion with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford said he had an unofficial request that needed to be addressed. It has to do with Codes Enforcement and Mr. Trexler said there needed to be a formal letter submitted from the Town of Granite Quarry formally requesting this board to authorize his department to enforce one small provision. Mr. Sifford read this to the board - pertaining to Article 7 - Town Zoning Ordinance contains a section 3, that deals with Mobile Homes or manufactured homes and their placement on individual lots within the Town's Zoning area. What they need to deal with is Article 7, Section 3 paragraph 8 which reads all mobile homes placed should be placed on a foundation (masonry wall) and anchored as required. Request that Codes Enforcement Office not issue a permit for electric service for manufactured homes placed on individual lots in the Granite Quarry Zoning area until compliance with a masonry curtain wall is accomplished. Commissioner Sifford moved the acceptance of this enforcement item by the Codes Enforcement Officer and recommend that it be authenticated by his office. Commissioner Messinger seconded. Chairman

Steele recommended that this be tabled in order for the County Attorney to research it.

Chairman Steele said that the tax rate proposals for Woodleaf Fire Department and E. Gold Hill Fire Department would be routinely added to the ordinance for approval tonight.

Chairman Steele asked the Board to reconsider the two positions in Mr. Koontz's formal budget.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion that we decline at the present time and let the proposed Personnel Director evaluate and in lieu of that Mr. Koontz is going to have six or seven new positions available to him when he goes on 40-hour work week. Commissioner Messinger seconded. The motion failing with Commissioners Sifford, DeMarcus and Chairman Steele voting against.

After a lengthy discussion concerning the need for these two positions, Commissioner Messinger moved that we approve these two positions for Social Services. Commissioner Sifford seconded. The motion carrying with Commissioner Cohen voting against.

Commissioner Cohen recommended several budget cuts in order to keep the county's tax rate at 43 1/2 cents. He recommended to delete from the budget an additional \$20,000 from the Salisbury-Rowan Economic Development Commission, to delete the \$170,746 from the allocation for expanded water and sewer lines, \$10,000 from the \$30,000 allocation for the Senior Citizens Center, the \$7,000 allocation for downtown business, \$20,000 for courthouse repairs, eliminate 4 of the 17 new cars allocated for the sheriff's department, \$50,000 from the \$200,000 allocation for the purchase of a new landfill site. Commissioner Cohen's motion to delete \$20,000 from the Salisbury-Rowan Economic Development Commission died for the lack of a second. His motion to delete \$170,746 from the water and sewer lines was seconded by Commissioner Messinger but failed with Commissioners DeMarcus, Sifford and Chairman Steele voting against. His motion to delete \$10,000 from the Senior Citizens Center died for the lack of a second. \$7,000 from the Salisbury downtown died for the lack of a second. \$20,000 from courthouse repairs was seconded by Commissioner Messinger but failed with Commissioners Sifford, DeMarcus and Chairman Steele voting against. Sheriff's cars was seconded by Commissioner DeMarcus but failed with Commissioners Messinger

and Sifford and Chairman Steele voting against. The \$50,000 deduction from the \$200,000 for a landfill site died for the lack of a second.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to allocate from Senate Two money whatever necessary to our allocation to the Economic Development Water and Sewer. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Sifford made a motion to approve paying the bill to forsyth for youth detention amounting to \$195.00. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners were to go out and select the color of brick for the new Agriculture Building at 2:00 today.

There being no further business, Chairman Steele adjourned the meeting until 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners