

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

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

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

Commissioner Demarcus made a motion to approve the minutes of May 27. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes of May 28 at 10:00 A.M. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes of May 28 at 7:00 P.M. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the minutes of May 29. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to approve the minutes of June 16 at Scotch Irish Community. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the minutes of June 16 at Woodleaf Community. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the minutes of June 19 for Gold Hill Community. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to approve the minutes of June 23. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Cohen and Commissioner Messinger had attended the meeting with the fire chiefs last Thursday and said it was a well received meeting. Mr. Cohen said they were well pleased with Mr. Ashworth, Emergency Management Director and seemed to be off on a good start.

Commissioner DeMarcus said the Library Board had been meeting and that they had invited Commissioners to a luncheon today at the Chelsey (formerly Kent's Steak House) from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

County Manager asked that Commissioners change their Agenda to add the Public Hearing on issuance of bonds for Fieldcrest Mills time 9:35 A.M. He said this request came in late.

Copy of update of court case Freddie Davis vs. Rowan County Jail from our attorney for information.

A bulletin reminder of Annual Conference Aug. 14- thru 17 N.C. Association of County Commissioners in Winston-Salem. Need to finalize the number going in order to send in the forms to get reservations.

Commissioner DeMarcus said she believed the County Manager was being modest but he had been asked to be on a panel concerning User's Fees.

From Centralina reminder that on July 23 they have established a COG Meeting that had been postponed due to the Las Vegas Conference. Will be hosted by Rowan and the City of Salisbury here.

June 9 correspondence from the Sierra Club and the Conservation Counsel of North Carolina which deals with clean water and radio active waste, etc.

From the Town of Granite Quarry letter to Sheriff Bost from Mayor Seaford for information purposes concerning agreement between the Faith-Granite Quarry Police Authority that County services will cease.

From Wayne Simpson, Tax Collector a copy of all 86 tax rates that have been improved for information.

Road Petition- Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve the addition of Elex Circle located off Saw Road (SR 1350) in the Enochville area of Atwell Township to the State System. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved the approval of the reappointment of Ray P. Karriker to the Watershed Commission to serve another term. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mr. Short who now serves on the Rowan County Industrial Facilities & Pollution Control Financing Authority wants to serve on the Library Board whenever he comes off this board. Deferred until next month.

County Manager had received letters from Maynard Newman who asked to be reappointed to the ABC Board and from Frank H. Dunn who asked that he be considered for appointment to this board.

Housing Authority, Julius Waggoner's term will expire in September. Commissioner DeMarcus said if he was willing to serve to reappoint him. Commissioners agreed to invite Ms. Pat Whitman, Supervisor Housing Authority to come and talk to them next month about the operation of the Housing Authority.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved the reappointment of Hall Steele to the Centralina Development Corporation for one year. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval. Centralina informed the County Attorney that these terms should be for one year.

Commissioner Messinger recommended deferring the appointments to the Aging Advisory Council.

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to reappoint Catherine Krider as an extraterritorial member of the Town of Granite Quarry's Zoning Board of Adjustment to replace Ron Bostian. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Terry Barber, Ambulance Director introduced Steve Fulcher alias "First Aid Freddy" and Barbara Sprinkle to Commissioners. Steve has been named the winner of the Charles A. Speed award for his outstanding service to emergency medicine in North Carolina for 1985. The program, known as "First Aid Freddy" is a one-of-a-kind effort which brings some medical education to those too young to take a formal first aid course in the school system. Freddy dresses as a clown to teach valuable safety lessons to these youngsters. Barbara assists Freddy at the schools. Chairman Steele awarded Steve and Barbara plaques to show their appreciation.

Commissioner Cohen said we get negative comments concerning the ambulance service but he had received a good one from an older volunteer fire chief who had responded to a wreck. Ambulance service went out and the report from the fire chief was that the quality of command of service was good and done in a pleasant manner.

Chairman Steele read the resolution to issue revenue bonds to Fieldcrest Mills, Inc. Commissioner DeMarcus moved the resolution to proceed with the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Messinger. Chairman said anyone wishing to speak could do so that Lawrence Mann, Treasurer of Fieldcrest was here to answer questions. Mr. Mann said they had spent one month preparing the process. They could get 70% financing saving 4% per year. Needing the bonds in order to become more competitive. Commissioner DeMarcus moved that the public hearing be closed. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval. Commissioner Messinger introduced the resolution authorizing the approval in principle of an industrial project in Rowan County. Commissioner DeMarcus moved the passage of the resolution. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Terry Barber, Ambulance Director had submitted EMS Standard Operational Procedures for Commissioners approval along with another request for helicopter usage which Commissioners agreed to defer until next month.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved that the Drought report from Lorene Coates, Supervisor of the ASCA Office be filed.

Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval. Mrs. Coates said the Rowan County Food and Agricultural Council has met and recommended that the county be declared a disaster due to drought. (attached)

Mr. Don Pruitt, member of the Citizens for a Safe Environment group showed Commissioners a flip chart on reasons for concern for chemical spills at National Starch. Mr. Pruitt said he had a B.S. in Chemistry and did graduate study at University of Delaware. Has had thirteen years of chemical industry experience so he said he knew what he was talking about when he said something has to be done to protect the people living near this plant. He said he lived at Kings Forest which is one-fourth of a mile from the plant. He showed case objectives which are (a) express concern over National Starch's overall- safety records- establish current surface and well-water quality surrounding the Cedar Springs Road plant. Get the Cedar Springs Road Dump site cleaned up promptly. Encourage National Starch to display improved communications and improved community relations. and develop long-range environment in Rowan County. He said a main concern of the people was the fact that there was a lack of information- secrecy-that low-level people were making statements that did not know what they were talking about. The people live in constant fear and fumes. He is recommending that Commissioners get involved and show concern- 2- study of National Starch 3- Strengthen Emergency Service Director options 4- demand more openness from National Starch 5- Direct the County Attorney to investigate ways to motivate National Starch.

Commissioner DeMarcus said the "Right to Know" law will help this cause, especially the demand for more openness from National Starch. Commissioner DeMarcus moved that this Board show their concern by contacting Raleigh, the Environmental Protection Agency and request funding for mandatory cleanup. Commissioner Messinger recommended holding off for a month in order for County Attorney to check it out to be sure Commissioners have their "ducks in a row". Chairman Steele said hopefully, by next month they could pass a resolution.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve the special consent order for the Heritage Rest Home which has been extended and will expire on November 30, 1986. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioners agreed to table a request from David Treme, City Manager to acquire all of tax parcel 9-1 located on Salisbury Boulevard near Statesville Boulevard at fair market value for right-of-way in the realignment of Salisbury Boulevard-Statesville Boulevard intersection; and in the event that the County places a satellite ambulance service in that area, Mr. Treme said the City of Salisbury would make available to the County the same fair market basis. Commissioner Messinger said they need to sit down and look at maps and decide whether or not they need to put a satellite there if they decide to would check it out with the City Manager.

Commissioner Messinger moved to amend to implement the Codes Enforcement Fees based on a 50% increase. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval. County Manager said these fees should be implemented as soon as possible since the revenues were part of the budget.

County Manager said changes were being made in Landfill User Fees but not in the fees. That tickets were being printed. That the special bill for dog tax was approved and Wallace Peeler, Tax Supervisor has the tags. That the Board of Health had not seriously pursued raising their fees but hopefully, by August 1 they would.

County Manager reported personnel.

Michael S. Drummond-Ambulance-\$1,088 monthly  
EMT

Carolyn C. Keeter-Library-\$829 replacing  
Louise Parnell at \$1,115

Doris J. Bradshaw-Tax Supervisor-\$850  
replacing M.F. Johnson at \$1,036

Deborah Hoffman-Library-\$6.07hr. replacing  
Jewel Driver at \$6.37hr.

Tom L. Duncan-Sheriff-\$1,143-replacing  
Mike Reid at \$1,143

Commissioner Demarcus made a motion to approve the personnel. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager reported Interest earned through June 30, 1986-

General Fund-----	\$486,701
Revenue Sharing----	61,217
Myrtis Nicholas----	1,126
Drainage-----	431
Revaluation-----	16,443
Library: East Branch-	8,785
Library: Main Branch-	51
Total---	<u>\$574,754</u>

County Manager reported refunds: For Jean Ramsey, Register of Deeds- refund \$16.00 to Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Monroe Creason due to a misunderstanding. Refund to Jean Ramsey the amount of \$192.50 for Excise Tax Stamps. Commissioner DeMarcus moved the approval of these two refunds. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Refund for the Tax Collector's office- Commissioner Messinger made a motion to approve Ambulance refunds totaling \$110.00. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

To County Attorney for dealing with fire service districts totalling \$1,743.50. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve this refund. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Final Budget Amendment - an attempt to balance all our accounts for our entire budget. Two amendments the first one is on fund 25- revaluation funds- set aside for an eight year period- to set up a budget line item of \$8,930.00 to be paid from this fund. Second one - Request for the General Fund- All major operating funds- Four main areas that exceeded- 1-

Merit system \$87,000 short- 2- Career Development Plan- \$97,000- EMS- Wage and Hour Ruling- \$31,000, and BFI services contract for the landfill about \$36,000 over and upove the budget this year these four areas equal almost \$300,000 increased costs after the year started that we did not actually budget for. Commissioner Messinger made a motion to approve the transfers. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager said Commissioners require Department Heads to come in with a good explanation on their line items; but at the end of the year we always go thru this process of realigning everyone's budget. Mr. Russell said if we are going to allow this every year we should not spend the first two weeks going thru the first part, but if we are going to be serious about the first end of it we should not allow this to happen again. In order to avoid this, we should tell them on the front end that it is not going to happen again. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to authorize the County Manager to proceed with policy of staying with the budget. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager asked the Commissioners if they wanted to make their annual contribution to the City of \$200 for Christmas decorations. Commissioner Messinger recommended accepting this as information and said he would like to see a summary of contributions (endeavors) that the County contributes to.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to appoint Chairman Steele as the voting delegate to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion for this board to support Buncombe County's Resolution in their efforts to request that Southern Bell amend the Emergency Services Tariff Section. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager told Commissioners that he had approached our present bank for a one year extension on bank services for the county. He felt like this would be the most fair and

better way of handling county funds since he and Ann both were still new. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to authorize the County Manager to advertise for bids for bank services. Commissioner Messinger seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to allow the Library Board to carry over their capital projects funds for construction for the East Branch. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

County Manager asked the Commissioners what their thoughts were concerning the merit system. Commissioner Messinger agreed that they should get it under control. Commissioners agreed that an endorsement should be recommended so department heads would understand that they are still endorsing it. To go over County Managers recommendations with department heads.

Commissioner Messinger made a motion to approve the State doing an ambulance location study for the county. This would be no cost to the county. His motion died for the lack of a second.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to go into executive session to discuss land acquisition for the landfill. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

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

No action was taken while in executive session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Honeycutt, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners