

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 4, 1988

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Community Building on January 4, 1988 at 9:00 A.M. The following members were present: Chairman Richard Messinger, Vice Chairman J. Newton Cohen, Sr., Commissioner Jamima DeMarcus, Commissioner George Knox and Commissioner Wilborn Swaim.

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

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 1987 Regular Meeting and Commissioner Swaim seconded with the following changes:

Page 7, paragraph 7 - should show Commissioners approved these appointments.

As additions to the Agenda, Commissioner DeMarcus asked to speak on the Tourism Authority Meeting and also on a recycling program. Commissioner Knox asked to speak on a Rowan County Clean-Up Campaign and discuss appointments of some minorities (blacks and females). Chairman Messinger stated that there may be visitors in attendance regarding the landfill. Tim Russell stated that HUD was suppose to call back possibly today regarding the recent Community Service Council Audit.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Tim Russell reported that there would be a Low-Level Radioactive Waste Meeting in Raleigh and one in Asheville on Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00 P.M. to give people the opportunity to comment on the proposed procedures and criteria for selecting a site. Mr. Russell stated he planned to attend the one in Raleigh and asked if anyone else would like to attend. Commissioners Cohen and Knox expressed an interest in attending and would let him know.

Copy of House Bill 865 - Makes it possible to have one public hearing instead of several different hearings on historic properties issues.

Copy of Grand Jury Report dated December 14, 1987 - It outlines areas they feel need attention. Tim Russell has passed this information on to Mr. Sloop in General Services.

Copy of letter dated December 21, 1987 from Governor

Martin - regarding additional construction money for schools.

Copy of letter dated December 8, 1987 from Stanly County stating they support Davidson and Rowan Counties effort to prevent a hazardous waste site from being established.

Copy of letter dated December 10, 1987 from Don Pruitt to Chairman Messinger.

Copy of December Monthly Statement - "Public School Building Capital Fund" dated December 17, 1987 from the Office of State Budget and Management.

Thank you letter from Jim Hurley for contribution to the Rufty-Holmes Senior Center. Commissioner DeMarcus stated the Center opened today (January 4).

Copy of Risk Management Bulletin by the James Company - Shows a 28% Loss Ratio.

Registration form on NACO 1988 Conference to be held at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D. C. March 5-8, 1988. All Commissioners stated they planned to attend this conference. Tim Russell will submit the necessary information.

Copy of Rowan Technical College Financial Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 1986.

Copy of the Summary of 911 calls for December. Commissioner DeMarcus asked that copies of the 911 calls be sent to each municipality.

ROAD PETITIONS:

None.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Rowan Public Library Board - Commissioner DeMarcus asked that Mrs. R. O. Everett and Mrs. Guy Etheridge be reappointed for six (6) year terms. Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. Commissioners Swaim and Cohen opposed. Chairman Messinger opposed motion made by Commissioner DeMarcus with motion defeated. Commissioner DeMarcus then made a motion for reappointment for a two (2) year term. Commissioner Knox seconded with unanimous approval. At the present time, the Board has ten (10) members but can have up to twelve (12). Commissioners will appoint two (2) more members to this board at the next meeting.

Parks and Recreation Commission - Commissioner Swaim nominated Randy Bingham, John Cadwallader, Myrtis Nicholas, and Reid Bradshaw. Commissioner DeMarcus nominated W.S. (Bill) Hall, Jr. Commissioner Knox nominated W. O. T. Fleming. Commissioner DeMarcus spoke for Bill Hall, W. O. T. Fleming and Myrtis Nicholas. Commissioner Knox said that he would like for the Board to consider appointing some minorities and females to these commissions. Commissioner Swaim made a motion to defer all these appointments and it was seconded by Commissioner Cohen. Discussion followed with motion being deferred. Commissioners DeMarcus and Knox opposed.

Cabarrus-Rowan Park Commission - Commissioner DeMarcus moved to re-appoint Larry Brown to this Commission. Commissioner Knox seconded with unanimous approval.

Airport Advisory Board - Commissioner Knox made a motion to re-appoint Lewis Hamlin and Diane Greene to this Board. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded the motion for discussion. She said that this Board needed someone who housed planes there. Commissioner Knox then asked that his other motion be withdrawn and he wanted to make a motion to re-appoint Diane Greene and appoint Tom Smith. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded the motion for discussion. Discussion followed and Commissioner Swaim requested that these appointments be deferred. The original motion made by Commissioner Knox was withdrawn. It was agreed to defer these appointments until the next meeting.

Historic Properties Commission - Commissioner Swaim made a motion to defer these appointments. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Rowan County Board of Health - Chairman Messinger moved to defer these appointments. Commissioner Swaim seconded with unanimous approval.

Rowan-Salisbury Human Relations Council - Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to re-appoint Leo Sowers and appoint Mrs. Richard (Lib) Womack and Rev. Hesikiah Lawson. Commissioner Swaim seconded the motion. Discussion followed with unanimous approval.

Rowan County Planning Board - Commissioner Knox moved to re-appoint David Roberts and William Russell. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Tri-County Area Mental Health Board - Commissioner Swaim moved to appoint Dr. John Blount. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Wayne Simpson, Tax Collector, reported the total collections for all 23 tax units and Districts amounted to \$11,648,827.13 for the month of December.

Commissioner Cohen asked about the information which was submitted to the Commissioners from Tim Russell regarding the On-Line TMA System for re-evaluation. Wayne Simpson commented and supports the system. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion for approval. Commissioners Knox and Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.

Ken Deal, Personnel Director presented the Rowan County Tobacco Guidelines effective January 1, 1988. Commissioner Knox moved to approve these guidelines. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded the motion. Discussion and comments from Commissioner Swaim followed. Guidelines were approved with Commissioner Swaim voting against.

Wade Mobley and Marcelle Williams with the Rowan County School Board presented their request which the Board of Education had approved from the Capital Outlay Fund. The request was permission to purchase land at West Rowan Junior High School, Fees for asbestos removal, Conversion of auditorium at the Central Office, and Modular Classroom Units for a total of \$247,500.00. After comments and questions from Commissioners, Commissioner Knox made a motion for approval and Commissioner Cohen seconded with approval. Mr. Mobley and Mr. Williams then submitted their Long-Range Facility Plan. Chairman Messinger asked that the Commissioners be allowed to review this information and include this on the Agenda for the February Meeting. Mr. Mobley and Mr. Williams agreed to this.

Randall Faggart presented a proposed Fire District Addition. This request is to include Anchor Downs in the Miller Ferry Fire District. Tim Russell and Wayne Ashworth asked questions and made comments. A Public Hearing is set for Wednesday, February 3, 1988 at 7:00 P.M. at the Miller Ferry Fire Department. Commissioner Knox made a motion for approval and Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman Messinger presented Charles Kluttz, Jr. with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service as District Engineer with the Department of Transportation. Mr. Kluttz retired on December 31, 1987.

Mrs. Patricia Link, co-chairman of Rowan Environmentalists Against Pollution (REAP) requested to speak to the Commission regarding the Landfill. After stating REAP's concerns, the Commissioners commented and discussed the landfill situation. Commissioner Cohen stated there was an ordinance that required all trucks to be covered when they are going to the landfill. Commissioner DeMarcus asked if this could be enforced. Commissioner Cohen made a motion that effective February 1, 1988 that all trucks must be covered when transporting garbage to the landfill. Commissioner Swaim seconded with unanimous approval.

Doug Tennent reported on continued renovations at the Department of Social Services. He reported the completion date is scheduled for June 1988. He stated that we are over budget by \$77,334.00. Tim Russell stated that we needed to appropriate these funds so we can obligate the contract. After discussion Commissioner Swaim made a motion for approval. Commissioner Knox seconded with unanimous approval.

Sheriff Bob Martin presented an Annual Update of Operations from the Sheriff's Department. He also reported that his department had logged 15,000 contact hours of training for 1987.

Sheriff Martin gave out handouts on DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) which is coming to North Carolina schools next fall. After a brief presentation, Mr. Martin asked to bring in Vi (a dog trained in searching for drugs) for a demonstration. This was allowed.

Commissioner DeMarcus asked Sheriff Martin about 911 and if he would be willing to negotiate. He stated he would. Chairman Messinger suggested setting up a meeting and trying to reach a compromise. Commissioners DeMarcus and Cohen were appointed to a committee for discussing the issue with the Sheriff.

John Greene (a private citizen) asked to speak regarding the 911 System. He was asking if there could be a Board of Directors to implement this system more efficiently. Chairman Messinger and Commissioner Swaim commented and gave Mr. Greene some input on this matter.

Chairman Messinger adjourned this meeting at 12:05 P.M. to go into Executive Session and return at 1:30 P.M.

Upon motion by Commissioner DeMarcus and seconded by Commissioner Swaim, the Commission went into executive session. Upon conclusion of executive session, motion was made by Commissioner DeMarcus and seconded by Commissioner Cohen to reconvene after lunch into public session.

Chairman Messinger commented on the memo from Tim Russell regarding the proposed lease agreement on the Old Quick Copy Shop. He stated that the rental rate was within reason but that we needed to consider some arrangement with Beltone Office. Commissioner Cohen suggested increasing the lease and take over full control of the whole building. Commissioner DeMarcus commented and questioned paying taxes. Chairman Messinger asked Tim Russell to see what we would be paying taxes on. Discussion followed with comments and questions. No action was taken and it was decided to take this matter up at the next meeting.

Chairman Messinger asked Tim Russell if he had information on the Planning Retreat. Mr. Russell reported that no definite place had been decided at this time. It was suggested to plan this for mid-February. Discussion followed and Chairman Messinger asked that Tim Russell begin the process of having a planning session with each department.

County Manager reported on the Personnel Activity Report for December.

County Manager reported on the Manager's Memo which involves several items of business.

- (1) Senate Bill 110 (Water/Sewer Loan Funds) gives a summary of the loan application process as well as answers come questions.
- (2) Employee Benefits Resolution is asking counties to support the resolutions. Chairman Messinger asked if we accept the Resolution. Commissioner Swaim made a motion to accept the Resolution. Commissioner Cohen seconded with unanimous approval.
- (3) Finance Officers Certification Information
- (4) Sales Assessment Ratio Study

(5) Zoning Treatment

County Manager reported interest earned through December 31, 1987 amounted to \$269,539.

County Manager reported refunds:

TO: Herbert Steimel the amount of \$20.00 from Building Inspection Department
Reason - Duplicate permit.

TO: Roger Brown/Wesco Signs, Inc. the amount of \$20.00 from Building Inspection Department
Reason - Wesco Signs didn't get the job done soon enough, so the owner got Chapman Custom Signs to do the work.

TO: Mickey Furr the amount of \$30.00 from Building Inspection Department
Reason - Customer cancelled.

Ambulance refunds for the month of December totaled \$621.62.

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to approve all refunds. Commissioner Swaim seconded with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus reported that the Tourism Authority Committee met and she made comments regarding the meeting.

Commissioner DeMarcus also discussed recycling. She asked if containers could be placed at various places in the county for glass and papers. Chairman Messinger was concerned about who would run it. Commissioner Cohen suggested placing containers at each of the designated man-sites for paper and glass. Discussion followed with suggestions and comments. No decision was made at this meeting but it was agreed that formal action will be taken at the next meeting. Chairman Messinger appointed Commissioners DeMarcus and Cohen to a committee for discussing recycling.

Commissioner Knox addressed the Commission on the need to educate the public on "Cleaning-Up" Rowan County. He suggested the slogan "Keep Rowan County Clean". Discussion followed with suggestions and comments. Commissioner Knox stated he would contact agencies and report back at the next meeting.

Commissioner DeMarcus asked when the new Agriculture Building would be dedicated. Tim Russell stated that the sign has not arrived but should be here sometime in February. A date and time will then be decided.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Russell, Acting Clerk
Board of County Commissioners