

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING
MAY 22, 1989

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building on May 22, 1989 at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: J. Newton Cohen, Sr., Chairman
Wilborn S. Swaim, Vice-Chairman
Henry H. Palmer, Member
George C. Knox, Member
Jamima P. DeMarcus, Member

The County Manager, Finance Director, and Clerk to the Board were also present as well as various Rowan County organizations.

Chairman Cohen called the meeting to order and Commissioner Palmer gave the invocation.

Commissioner Palmer presented a resolution as attached to these Minutes regarding a Highway Trust Fund Bill pending in the General Assembly.

The following organizations presented their budget to the Commission as attached to these Minutes.

ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

It was stated that 65 percent of the roofing had been completed. Their request went from \$1,130,440 last year to \$1,140,241 this coming year which is a .87 percent increase. It was requested in the letter to Mr. Tim Russell, as attached to these Minutes that the Commission reduce their capital outlay request for fiscal year 89-90 from \$325,000 to \$242,000 in order to accommodate the debt service figure, which is higher than the figure projected three (3) years ago.

Commissioner Knox stated that he felt the Commission is aware of the needs of RCCC and feels the Commission is concerned with the improvement of the lives of their citizens. Commissioner Swaim endorsed Commissioner Knox's statement and further stated that should the Commission find it necessary not to appropriate all their requests, it is not because the school is not deserving of the funds, but because the funds are not available. Commissioner DeMarcus also spoke in support of Rowan-Cabarrus Community College.

SALISBURY-ROWAN HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL - CATRELIA HUNTER:

Ms. Catrelia Hunter presented their budget to the Commission as attached to these Minutes. Ms. Hunter projected their needs for the upcoming year and therefore requested \$2,200 be divided equally between the County and City as done for the previous budget year.

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY - LARRY HANCOCK:

Mr. Hancock presented an impact study to the Commission. Mr. Hancock feels they have more than a \$9MM impact and stated that the figures were incorrect on the study as presented to the Commission. They have approximately 244 personnel in their unit and approximately 300 people that drill in the Armory. This is the largest unit in the State of North Carolina. Their request this year reflects a slight increase from last year. Mr. Hancock indicated a need for sidewalks, landscaping as well as new equipment for landscaping. He also indicated a need for painting to be done inside the Armory. Commissioner Swaim asked in what way does the federal support the facility. Mr. Hancock replied that aviation is supported by federal and the Armory itself is supported by State. In the past, the facility was rented out to other organizations as a way to generate other funds, but due to the security of the new advanced equipment installed at this site, this has restricted them from continuing this source of revenue.

ARMY AVIATION SUPPORT FACILITY - COLONEL OWENS:

Colonel Owens requested an increase of \$825 over last year's appropriation for road (paving) to the hazardous waste container. Colonel Owens stated that they did not like the quality of maintenance supplies provided by the State. Commissioner DeMarcus suggested notifying the State to change.

THIRD CREEK WATERSHED - WADE CARRIGAN:

Mr. Carrigan stated that an agreement was previously made between Iredell and Rowan to split the cost of maintenance for Watershed. Mr. Carrigan stated that Rowan obtained more of the benefit from this than Iredell. This pilot project involved constructing eleven (11) flood controlled structures on streams draining into Third Creek requested by USDA as well as the Soil and Water Conservation District. The land owners benefit from these dams in Third Creek Watershed.

It was requested that the Commission appropriate \$9,346 from

Rowan County. This is 30 percent over their total request from last budget year. Mr. Henderson indicated that this request is needed for a drainage system at the dams.

SALISBURY-ROWAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION - DAN WILLIAMS:

Mr. Williams stated that their budget request reflects proposed development. Chairman Cohen indicated his support of the Economic Development Commission. However, he raised some concern as to their 7 percent increase in salaries. Chairman Cohen stated that the County is anticipating a 4.4 percent increase in Cost-of-Living for employees. Mr. Williams indicated that the 7 percent increase includes merit increases as they are trying to maintain the competitive position Mr. Harry Whalen holds. Mr. Williams indicated that the majority of the municipalities are responding very positively to their request.

VOCATIONAL WORKSHOP - JUANITA OLSEN:

Ms. Olsen requested a \$600 increase over last year's budgeted amount. The County School turned over the Shuford School to the Vocational Workshop. However, there are some areas in this building that require maintenance as well as the satellite building. Ms. Olsen is requesting three (3) additional staff people. Rowan-Cabarrus Community College has agreed to sponsor three (3) compensatory classes a day for two (2) days in June.

FORESTRY SERVICE:

Mr. Wayne Alexander presented their budget to the Commission as attached to these Minutes. Their operating expenses amounted to \$12,000 for this coming budget year.

SALISBURY-ROWAN COMMUNITY SERVICE COUNCIL:

Last year \$5,000 was allocated by both the City and the County which enabled them to broaden their horizons and serve both areas. A total of 166 persons have been served within the City and County. The Community Block Grant is in the amount of \$200,000 but can only be used for the City of Salisbury.

RUFTY-HOLMES SENIOR CENTER - FAYE GILES:

\$12,000 for Operating Expenses was presented in their proposed budget to the Commission, the same as last year. Ms. Giles stated that they must enforce a retirement plan in order to become a United Way agency. 79 percent of the residents in 1988 were from the City, but this has increased in the County in 1989. The proposed budget consists of the operating funds for the Rufty-Holmes Senior Center.

ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES - BOYD COARSEY:

Mr. Coarsey reported that Mr. Ralph Ketner contributed \$150,000 toward the construction of the building that would serve as a shelter for the homeless as well as a soup kitchen. This building will consist of 10,837 square feet. The shelter will be located at 226 North Long Street. It was requested that the County and City participate in \$50,000 each to go towards the construction of the building. It is their hope that the City, County, religious, and private enterprises will contribute to meet a community need with no federal money involved other than a HUD Grant. This will be used for operation and services.

SALISBURY-ROWAN COUNCIL ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES - RUBY PARISH

Ms. Ruby Parish raised concern for buildings within the County to provide handicapped facilities. She then presented the budget to the Commission as attached to these Minutes.

CENTRAL SALISBURY CORPORATION - AL HOFFMAN:

Mr. Al Hoffman presented a request of \$10,000 from the County as attached to these Minutes. This will go towards the improvement of the attraction of new industry within the County and City.

SALISBURY COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION:

Ms. Mimi Parrot and Ms. Margaret Kluttz as well as Ms. Janie Allen presented their budget to the Commission as attached to these Minutes. They requested \$10,000 each from both the City and County. This request will be to employ a part-time employee under the office of Rowan County who would be trained and certified by Keep America Clean and Beautiful. This person would be responsible for continuing extensive service dealing with solid waste management in order to reduce the burden in the Public Works Department of Salisbury. The City has indicated that they would

endorse this once the County did.

The County Manager implied that a Recycling Coordinator received high priority by the Commission at their Planning Retreat; therefore, this person could assume the duties described by Ms. Allen.

UNITED ARTS COUNCIL:

Last year Rowan County appropriated \$21,000. In order to continue funding activities to improve programs, they are requesting an appropriation of \$26,250 be made or distribution to its member organizations. This amount reflects a 25 percent increase and a 15 percent decrease in last year's request (25 cents per capita appropriation). They are currently seeking funds to restore the Old Marroni Theater. Commissioner Knox noted that of the five (5) senior high schools, the areas students scored lowest on their SAT was Humanities and Art. He suggested the United Arts Council promote the arts in the schools.

LAW LIBRARY - BAYES SHOAF:

Mr. Shoaf stated that he intends to write a letter to all lawyers requesting them to return books back to the Law Library that have been out for quite some time. They have installed a Westlaw Computer in the Library on a six-month trial basis. Mr. Ed Norvell described the Westlaw System to the Commission. This will replace some of the books in the library as well as eliminate quite a bit of time in researching cases. The State Reporter has been discontinued from the Law Library. Now this system will allow them to access The State Reporter. The attorneys would be charged by the hour for using the System. This will be controlled by an access code given to each lawyer. As they feel it would still be important to retain the books that this system could replace, they feel they can maintain the library at the same level of funding as last year; therefore, they are not asking for any increase.

Chairman Cohen stated that the majority of people using the law library are attorneys and not citizens. Therefore, he stated that he is not in favor of the County funding any more for this facility than is really necessary.

NORTH CAROLINA TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM - BILL WEANT, R. O. EVERETT,
AND RICHARD MESSINGER:

Mr. Messinger stated that they are increasing revenues at the

Spencer Shops. Last year they had 63,440 visitors at the Spencer Shops. This past month, they increased this by 6,390. Many of the visitors are school children. They have had many volunteers to participate at the Spencer Shops. The North Carolina Transportation Museum is requesting \$10,000 from the County. Mr. Messinger stated that in two (2) years the County will have train service from Charlotte and Raleigh.

ROWAN RESCUE SQUAD - ROBERT GOBBLE AND COYT KARRIKER:

Mr. Gobble stated that the satellite stations have helped tremendously. The United Way helps with some of the Operating Expenses for these stations but mostly it is done through donations as well as County appropriations. They wish to continue to service as a back-up to the County Ambulance Service. They anticipate funding to purchase rescue equipment. Several months ago, Mr. Gobble was contacted by the Department of Insurance and was told that they would be able to obtain a matching grant for the equipment. They hope these funds would be available by the middle of July. They are requesting that the County appropriate \$15,000 as soon as possible in order to apply for the grant.

They are also having problems with their Communications and is currently studying a new base station. The City donated a water truck to the Rescue Squad (9 years old - 38,000 miles). They cannot purchase any new equipment with the amount budgeted from United Way.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Knox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. until May 23, 1989 at 9:30 a.m. and Commissioner Palmer seconded with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy S. Powell
Clerk to the Board

Signed: Denise J. Barrow