

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING
MAY 23, 1989

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building on May 23, 1989 at 9:30 a.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 Knox gave the invocation.

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

ROWAN COUNTY TOURISM AUTHORITY - JUDY NEWMAN:

Ms. Newman stated that the accommodations brochure, as attached to these Minutes, will be reprinted as soon as possible due to the errors contained in it as well as other information to be added. Ms. Newman requested that the Commission continue \$30,000 as has been done in the previous budget year. She felt they could operate on their current budgeted amount as well as the revenues generated through occupancy tax. For every dollar spent, five (5) dollars returns to the County as tax revenue. Most of their appropriation goes towards advertising. The money in surplus was anticipated to be used for a computer software package for the Welcome Centers in the State. They anticipate updating their accommodations brochure every eighteen (18) months.

SCHOOLS - DR. DON MARTIN:

Dr. Don Martin presented the Budget for the Salisbury-Rowan School System. In his proposed budget, he stated that they are attempting to bring County Principals to the same salary level as the City. State funds are provided in a lump sum for clerical workers, but is divided among the school system. To bring salaries up to the State level would cost approximately \$85,000. In their budget, they made estimates to increase salaries, increase state

money, and equalize the County and City.

Dr. Martin suggested a salary schedule that would:

- 1) Meet State minimal requirements
- 2) Increase salaries five (5) percent
- 3) Create level types

Dr. Martin has considered salary equalization as an expense.

The proposed programs are things that were done because of merger to benefit the children. Dr. Martin stated that there should be an incentive made by the teacher to the child to use the evening tutor program. He also suggested offering a swim program to fourth (4th) grade students over a six-week period.

Under the Basic Education Plan (BEP), they intend to allow each school (City and County) to resubmit their budget allocations and allow them to participate in matching funds. It is also their intent that additional funds needed for equipment and building be paid 100 percent through the School. Approximately 13,567 report cards will now be done by the SIMS Project.

In regards to Horizons Unlimited, Dr. Martin stated that they will present a separate budget as this is not school related. Davie County will participate in funds for this Center as well as Rowan.

Commissioner DeMarcus stated that she would like to see the DARE Program remain in the Law Enforcement Budget.

HORIZONS UNLIMITED/ROWAN LIVE AND LEARN, INC. - DAVE CLAY:

Mr. Dave Clay presented their budget to the Commission as attached to these Minutes. It was the concern of the Commission to see this budget as part of the School's Budget and not separate. Dr. Martin interjected that the City has considered this a separate budget. Commissioner DeMarcus stated that the Commission has never controlled line items. Mr. Reid Leonard stated that if Horizons Unlimited is considered under the Schools' Budget, they may lose foundation support as this would be considered a governmental agency. It was the consensus of all involved to be considered as part of the Schools' Budget as long as their portion of funding is not jeopardized in the disbursement process of funds once a lump sum was appropriated to the Schools.

SALISBURY/ROWAN YOUTH CENTER - SARA COOK:

Concerned parents joined together four (4) years ago to do something about substance abuse in Rowan County. Tri-County has worked with them as well. Mr. David Treme, Salisbury City Manager, headed a goal-setting process for this group. Their number one (1) priority is to coordinate a drug prevention program under the merged school system which would include implementation of early identification and referral program and implementation of student assisted program supported by school policy. This is not currently done by the Schools. Their request is to have five (5) substance abuse positions--one (1) for each area of the County. They hope this will be funded through the Schools. The salary request is \$27,500 each.

TRI-COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH - SAM CARTER:

Mr. Sam Carter, Chairman of the Tri-County Mental Health Board and Mr. Dan Bradshaw, new Area Director, presented their budget request to the Commission as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Bradshaw stated that eight (8) percent of their total Budget is allocated by Rowan County. Last year \$214,502 was appropriated to Tri-County which included ABC Funds.

Mr. Bradshaw reviewed services provided by Tri-County as attached to these Minutes. One additional program that has now been added is a Nursing Home Screening Process. The State now requires anyone admitted to a nursing home must first be screened for eligibility requirements. Mr. Bradshaw stated that they need to increase programs in Tri-County Mental Health Clinic.

Mr. Don Peiffer anticipated an operating budget of \$5.6 Million this year. The State provides sixty (60) percent of funds to Tri-County and eleven (11) percent is provided through fees.

Tri-County ranks second (2nd) in the State for collection of fees but they rank low in State funding. Fifty (50) percent of clients served are in Rowan County, and they have offered approximately \$3 Million of services to clients this year.

Tri-County made a request to the Commission in the amount of \$415,567--\$201,000 more than appropriated for last budget year. They are anticipating approximately \$124,000 increase from the State to be used for programs that they currently have. \$60,182 of their request will be used to give a six (6) percent salary increase to their employees.

Davie County will be appropriating \$63,953 and Iredell will appropriate \$152,260. Davie County has previously appropriated

\$30,000 this year to relocate the Workshop. They also gave them office space in Mocksville free of charge. Their original request to Davie County was \$121,266 and \$321,908 to Iredell.

Mr. Carter requested to notify Raleigh of the Commission's support for Senate Bill 266, which will be called to vote in the General Assembly for a grant for Tri-County. Representative Charlotte Gardner and another Senator have introduced bills pending in the Legislature for funding (H364 and S313). The Commission concurred to this request.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. until May 24, 1989 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy S. Powell
Clerk to the Board

Signed: Denise J. Barrow