

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING
MAY 24, 1989

The Board of Rowan County Commissioners met in Adjourned Session in the Community Building on May 24, 1989 at 9:00 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.

During this meeting, the Commission reviewed the Budgets that had been presented to them as attached to these Minutes.

REVIEW OF TAXED RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS BUDGET - RANDALL FAGGART:

Mr. Randall Faggart reviewed with the Commission the taxed rural fire departments budget as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Faggart indicated that an incentive is needed in regards to the retirement benefits. The retirement benefit is currently \$100 per month after age 55. Next year this will be increased to \$110 effective October 1. The National Fire Department Association has established guidelines stating how departments should meet safety obligations. Chairman Cohen recommended that the County Manager illustrate what the tax was last year for each department and what is proposed.

HAZAROUS MATERIALS - RANDALL FAGGART:

Mr. Faggart indicated that the Rescue Squad needs to have a system for decontaminating individuals on the scene of a hazardous materials emergency. Mr. Faggart indicated that this would consist of some training time and therefore requested some part-time staff to work with hazardous materials. At the present time, they are using volunteers. They will also need to obtain some light-weight bath robes to be worn by individuals at the scene. This would eliminate contaminating ambulances and hospitals.

COMMISSION REVIEW OF BUDGET:

The County Manager then reviewed the proposed budget with the Commission and provided information as attached to these Minutes. After considerable discussion, the following points were raised.

Commissioner DeMarcus stated that she would like to see Horizons Unlimited remain as part of the Schools' Budget. Commissioner Swaim stated that he is not in favor of the Commission getting involved with line items. Chairman Cohen felt that County agencies should not have a surplus of funds. It was estimated that \$2,016,200 will be received from the half-cent sales tax for this year (30 percent from the first half and 60 percent from the second). The two half-cent sales tax are based on population and the one-cent sales tax is based on origin of sale (everything sold in Rowan County). Any city that incorporates is placed into the formula such as Kannapolis.

In regards to the proposed Landfill budget, the County Manager reported that the purpose of the greenboxes is for residential and personal household garbage. These boxes have been abused by commercial businesses and persons from other counties. After considerable discussion on this issue, the County Manager suggested the Planning Board pursue an ordinance prohibiting illegal dumping within the County.

The Board then agreed to the following proposal to be presented at a meeting of all the municipalities as well as private residential haulers on Wednesday, May 31, 1989 at 7:30 p.m.:

- 1) Free load per week
- 2) Tipping Fees \$20 per ton
- 3) 12 manned sites
- 4) No charge at County dumpster sites
- 5) Dumpster sites will only accept residential household garbage
- 6) Promote recycling

As a result, it was agreed that the landfill become self-supporting. However, in order to pay for dumpster sites' operations, a special tax will be levied against all non-city residents.

The Schools and Airport were discussed as outlined in the information provided to the Commission from the County Manager.

In regards to merit increases, Commissioner DeMarcus felt that so many of the same people are receiving merit increases. The County Manager then stated that forty (40) percent of employees will receive merit increases and asked the Commission what

alternative they would take to this. The County Manager then reported that merit increases are given as an incentive for creative employees who go beyond their limit of expectations. Commissioner DeMarcus suggested a new concept of merits be given such as considering all the components of a department; therefore, the department itself would receive a merit increase for team efforts instead of a merit increase given to an individual. It was noted that a 4.4 percent increase is budgeted for Cost-of-Living Adjustment for County employees.

It was noted that \$100,000 is always budgeted for contingency funds.

Chairman Cohen entertained a motion to authorize the Rescue Squad to apply for the grant as requested at Monday night's meeting and provide a letter of intent to the Rescue Squad stating that the Commission will fund \$7,500. Commissioner Knox made a motion to approve and Commissioner Swaim seconded with unanimous approval.

Chairman Cohen indicated that he would like to review the mileage of the Sheriff cars.

As a result of considerable discussion pertaining to the budget, the following was tentatively set for expansion:

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College:	
Current Expense	\$ 30,000
Capital Outlay	-0-
Tri-County Area Mental Health Clinic:	44,133
Employee Benefits:	453,428
Airport:	
Runway Extension	187,500
Terminal Facility	75,000
Parking/Entrance Area	20,000
Landfill (Self-Supporting):	-0-
Shelter for the Homeless - Commissioner Swaim made a motion to provide a Letter of Intent to appropriate \$50,000 when funds become available and Commissioner DeMarcus seconded with unanimous approval.	
United Arts Council:	-0-
Economic Development Commission:	3,500

Rowan Rescue Squad:	7,500
Cabarrus-Rowan Parks:	-0-
Third Creek Watershed:	-0-
Central Salisbury Corp. - It was noted that \$2,500 was to be received by Central Salisbury Corp.	
Army Aviation Flight Facility:	-0-
Historic Properties:	-0-
National Guard Armory:	-0-
Sheltered Workshop:	-0-
Salisbury/Rowan Council of Persons with Disabilities:	-0-
Public Library - It was agreed to allocate \$18,000 to be used at their discretion.	
Sheriff's Office:	
Additional Patrol Zone (1/2)	70,000
Revision in Career Development Plan	45,088
Soil and Water Conservation District:	-0-
Emergency Services:	
EMT-AI Program	22,000
Salary Adjustment for Program Advancement	12,100
Power Back-Up	800
Summer Employment for Road Addresses	3,400
General Services:	-0-
Data Processing:	25,000
County Assessor - It was noted that the In-house Revaluation System as well as the full-time business property auditor would generate revenue.	
Environmental Services:	15,600
Codification of Ordinances - Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to fund \$10,000 for this out of this year's contingency fund and Commissioner Palmer seconded with unanimous approval.	

Agriculture Extension:	-0-
Parks:	25,000
Office on Aging:	-0-
Social Services:	87,679

Health Department - It was estimated that Office Space and Renovations would cost approximately \$500,000. It was then the consensus of the Board to appropriate \$360 for a telephone system at the Animal Shelter.

Historic Properties Commission - It was the consensus of the Commission to fund \$5,000 this year for continued restoration of the Henderson Library and \$5,000 next year as well as to fund \$1,000 for the restoration of the Old Well and Steps.

In regards to Capital Outlay, it was the consensus of the Board to appropriate the following:

Human Relations Council	\$975
Tourism Authority	\$17,000*
*\$30,000 - Generated through ABC Funds	
- 10,000 - Spencer Shops	
- 3,000 - Expenses for Office	
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	\$17,000

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to appropriate \$17,000 to the Tourism Authority as described above and Commissioner Palmer seconded with unanimous approval.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Knox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. until Wednesday, May 31, 1989 at 2:00 p.m. to complete the budget process and Commissioner Swaim seconded with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy S. Powell
Clerk to the Board

Signed: Denise J. Barrow