

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION - FEBRUARY 4, 1991  
RED ROOM - COMMUNITY BUILDING

The Rowan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, February 4, 1991, at 9:00 a.m., in the Red Room of the Community Building.

PRESENT: J. Newton Cohen, Chairman  
Henry H. Palmer, Vice-Chairman  
Jamima P. DeMarcus, Member  
Charles H. Welch, Member  
Thomas M. Webb, Member

The County Manager, County Attorney, Finance Director and Clerk to the Board were also in attendance, as well as concerned citizens.

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

MINUTES:

The following Minutes were submitted for approval:

\* January 7, 1991 (Regular and Adjourned Sessions)

There being no corrections, Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to approve the Minutes as submitted. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus did, however, suggest that (re: action resulting from the 1/7/91 Meeting), a personalized letter be submitted regarding Welcome Neighbor Services. Chairman Cohen and County Manager Russell will compose the letter.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

\* Commissioner DeMarcus stated that a new group had been formed from the Rowan Helping Ministries. The group will maintain contact with the servicemen/women from the area, and offer assistance to their families. The County Manager will contact Veterans Service Officer Grady Howard to coordinate the effort.

\* Vice-Chairman Palmer discussed the issue of the optional 1/2¢ increase in County sales tax. Mr. Russell distributed information showing an analysis of the optional increase of sales tax. Chairman Cohen suggested, and Commissioner Webb made a motion, to send a letter to local legislators stating the Board's views. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

\* Commissioner DeMarcus stated her concerns regarding recycling in the schools. Mr. Russell will check with Don Conner to insure that all recycling boxes are in working order.

\* County Manager Russell discussed a letter regarding Cabarrus County Schools' funding procedures, as attached to these Minutes. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to continue funding the schools as they have been done previously, and approve the drafted letter to Cabarrus County. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

\* A proposal from Mr. F. Michael McLaurin of COG, regarding second year recommendations of the Jail Advisory Group, as attached to these Minutes. Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve the proposal as submitted. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

\* County Attorney John Holshouser discussed the sale of Sloan Park Property, and submitted a Resolution to members of the Board. He stated that the deposit had been received, and no other bids were submitted during the process. Vice-Chairman Palmer then made a motion to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

County Manager Russell presented correspondence to the Board, as attached to these Minutes:

\* Letter, dated January 7, 1991, from Cabarrus County Manager Michael M. Ruffin, regarding the reappraisal schedules for Rowan and Cabarrus Counties. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve Mr. Russell writing a response regarding the coordination of schedules. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

\* Letter, dated January 15, 1991, from Mr. Robert M. Melton, Jr., General Mgr. of Vision Cable of Metrolina, regarding increases in charges.

\* Letter, dated January 14, 1991, from Mr. John G. Patseavouras, Director, of the N. C. Dept. of Correction, regarding Electronic Monitoring Centers.

\* Information regarding the 1990 Population Totals in North Carolina.

#### ROAD PETITIONS:

Commissioner Webb offered one (1) Road Petition, Parkland Drive in the Providence Township, to be added, as attached to these Minutes. The motion was made by Commissioner Webb to approve the petition, and seconded by Vice-Chairman Palmer, with unanimous approval.

#### TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

Tax Collector Wayne Simpson presented the Preliminary January 1991 Report, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Simpson also requests authorization from the Board to advertise Real Estate Tax Notices. Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion authorizing Mr. Simpson to advertise the notices. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

Vice-Chairman Palmer also made a motion to send a letter to our local legislators regarding servicemen/women's taxes, and how to handle the situation. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

#### UPDATE ON SCHEDULE OF ROAD NAME CHANGES - WAYNE ASHWORTH:

Wayne Ashworth, EMS Director, submitted two (2) proposed road name changes, as attached to these Minutes:

- (1) Country Lane (SR 1819 - South off Sherrill's Ford Rd. in Graham Place Subdivision) to "Country Hill Drive".

Commissioner Welch made a motion to set a Public Hearing for March 4, 1991 at 9:30 a.m. The motion was seconded, with unanimous approval.

- (2) 1st Street (SR 2127 - West off Ridgecrest Road) to "Cliffdale Road"

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to set this Public Hearing, also, on March 4, 1991 at 9:30 a.m. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

At this time, Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Commissioner Welch seconded, with unanimous approval.

#### PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED NAME CHANGE:

- (1) E. Mendenhall Rd. to Lauren Lane: no one spoke for/against the change
- (2) Canterbury Drive to Brooktree Drive: Ms. Margaret Thompson (resident) suggested renaming the road as "Cambridge" or "Canterbury Circle". Mr. Ashworth will check for duplication. A decision was deferred to the March 4th meeting.
- (3) Regency Road to Regency Drive: Mr. Safrit (resident) suggested leaving Regency Road named as is, and renaming the shorter section (having no homes) as "Regency Drive."

Vice-Chairman Palmer then made a motion to close the Public Hearing, and return to Regular Session. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

With no one to speak for/against the Mendenhall Road change, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the change. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to have Mr. Ashworth check to see which Canterbury Drive residents used the name first, and defer a decision until the March 4th meeting. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

Lastly, Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve changing the shorter section of road to Regency Drive, and not rename Regency Road. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

#### PROPOSAL OF "HURLEY SCHOOL ROAD EXTENSION":

Mr. Ashworth distributed a letter from the Franklin Fire Dept. regarding the proposed change, as attached to these Minutes, stating that the proposed naming to "Hurley School Extension" would not eliminate confusion in the 911 System.

Mrs. Judy Corriher and Mr. Jim Harris (residents) addressed the Board, and requested "Hurley School Rd. Extension" or "Hurley School Rd."

Commissioner DeMarcus suggested that Mr. Ashworth recommend a name suitable to both EMS and the residents, and defer a decision to the March 4th meeting. The motion was seconded, with unanimous approval. Later in the meeting, Mr. Ashworth reported back, that he had, again, contacted the petitioners, and they are adamant on their choice of names, although he had recommended "Hurley School Drive". Therefore, Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to set the Public Hearing for March 4, 1991 at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

UPDATE ON RENAMING 1300 BLOCK OF SHORE ACRES DRIVE:

There being no one to speak for/against the change, Commissioner Webb made a motion to accept the change to "Moonlight Drive." Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

UPDATE ON FOUTZ/DAVIS DRIVE:

Mr. Ashworth recommends Foutz Street, since there are already three (3) others whose names include "Davis" in existence. Since there are still some unsolved discrepancies, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to defer a decision to the March 4th meeting. The motion was seconded, with unanimous approval.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONCERNS - EVELYN SCHAFFER/D. J. WHITFIELD:

Ms. Evelyn Schaffer and Ms. D. J. Whitfield addressed the Board regarding concerns of Nursing Staff at the Rowan County Health Department. Ms. Schaffer stated that Rowan County's Health Department has vacancies which remain unfilled for many months, due to the low starting salaries, and poor working conditions. Mrs. Whitfield explained that nurses in Rowan County look to surrounding counties with better opportunities to offer, and distributed a Salary Study Committee Report, as attached to these Minutes. Ms. Martha Harrell, Ms. Millie Cooper and Health Department Director Bert Hawley also voiced their concerns.

MATERNITY CARE COORDINATOR GRANT - BERT HAWLEY:

Health Department Director Bert Hawley addressed the Board to seek authorization for a grant application to fund two (2) new positions as Maternity Care Coordinators, and distributed information regarding same, as attached to these Minutes.

After considering the information, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the request. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

POLICIES/PROCEDURES FOR COMMISSION MEETINGS - CHAIRMAN COHEN:

Chairman Cohen discussed several policies for consideration by the Board:

\* whether or not to require a "second" to motions; by consensus, the Board will continue to "second" motions.

\* possibility of holding two (2) meetings per month, the second being a night meeting; a decision was deferred to a later date.

Chairman Cohen then appointed Commissioner Webb and Commissioner DeMarcus to work with the County Manager regarding any future proceedings changes.

AUDITING CONTRACT - BRADY FRICK:

County Finance Director Brady Frick distributed copies of a previous letter to Chairman Cohen, regarding auditing services, and also a schedule of previous audit contracts with costs, as attached to these Minutes. His request is to bid auditing services for the upcoming three (3) year period. After considering the information, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to bid the services. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT TO COUNTY FACILITY LEASE AGREEMENTS - BRADY FRICK:

Mr. Frick presented a Resolution amending the County Facility Lease agreement, as attached to these Minutes. Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to approve the Resolution as submitted. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

LAND USE QUALIFICATIONS/COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AUDITING - JERRY ROWLAND:

Mr. Rowland was unable to make his presentation at this meeting.

After returning from lunch, the motion was made and seconded, with unanimous approval, to go into Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

After the Board returned to Regular Session, the following actions were taken:

\* Acquisition of Property: Commissioner Webb made a motion to purchase the Parkdale Mills property for the sale price of \$69,000. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

\* Board Appointments:

Rowan County Nursing Home Advisory Committee: Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to appoint Ms. Virginia Graves to replace Mr. John Steele. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval. Also, Commissioner Webb made a motion to reappoint Ms. Barbara White to the Committee. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Senior Services Advisory Council: The Board deferred a replacement for Ms. Etta Mae Kirk to the March 4th meeting.

Library Board: As Mr. Marcus C. Smith has resigned, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to appoint Mrs. R. O. Everett as a replacement. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Human Relations Council: As Ms. Elizabeth Womack has resigned, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to appoint Mrs. Norma Goldman to the position. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

Town of Spencer: At the Town's request, Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to reappoint Mr. Walter Eugene Goodlet, Sr., to the Spencer Planning Board as an extraterritorial member. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

REPORT ON PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - KEN DEAL:

The Board had previously received copies of the Personnel Board Meeting Minutes of 1/15/91, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Ken Deal, Personnel Director discussed points of interest with the Board, and the following actions were taken:

Item #1: Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to approve the DSS proposal for 2 persons, with the provision to reconsider at budget time. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, and the vote was as follows:

Chairman Cohen - aye	Vice-Chairman Palmer - aye
Commissioner DeMarcus - aye	Commissioner Webb - no
Commissioner Welch - no	

Item #5: Mr. Deal distributed a proposed amendment regarding Employment of Relatives, as attached to these Minutes. Commissioner Webb made a motion that the effective date of the amendment is current date (2/4/91). Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Item #7: The balance of the Cafeteria Plan must be donated to a charitable organization, according to Mr. Deal. Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to approve the donation of \$105.72 as stated. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM NURSING ADVISORY AND DOMICILIARY COMMITTEES - ALICE HEDT:

Ms. Alice Hedt, Ombudsman of Centralina Council of Governments, presented the Annual Report of Nursing and Domiciliary Home Community Advisory Committees, as attached to these Minutes. Ms. Hedt also introduced support staff present in the audience.

UPDATE ON ANIMAL SHELTER - DR. TED JAMES/HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE:

Dr. Ted James, and Mr. Lonnie Goodman gave an update on the proposal for the new animal shelter. Mr. Robert Clark was introduced as the architect, and presented a preliminary plan, as attached to these Minutes. Based on a 6,000 square foot area, the building should cost approximately \$50/sq. ft., according to Mr. Clark.

REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT OF CHALLENGE PROGRAM GRANT:

County Manager Russell explained the purpose of the program. The Board had previously received information regarding the program, as attached to these Minutes. After reviewing the materials, Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to apply for the grant. Commissioner DeMarcus

seconded, and the vote was 4-0, (Commissioner Webb was absent from the room).

REQUEST FROM TOWN OF ROCKWELL ON TIRE DISPOSAL PROBLEM - DON CONNER:

The Board had previously received copies of a letter regarding the tire disposal problem in the Town of Rockwell, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Conner stated that the Woster Street site is in violation of the Rowan County Solid Waste Ordinance. Commissioner Webb made a motion to issue a citation for violation of the Ordinance. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR 1991-92 BUDGET PROCESS - TIM RUSSELL:

Mr. Russell provided a proposed schedule for the upcoming Budget Planning Process, as attached to these Minutes. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to hold the retreat in-county. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Interest: Mr. Russell gave the report of interest earned through January 1991, as attached to these Minutes.

Refunds: Various refunds were submitted for approval, as attached to these Minutes. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the refunds. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Request for Sale of Surplus Vehicles: Mr. Wayne Ashworth previously sent a request for the sale of surplus vehicles, as attached to these Minutes. The memorandum outlines Mr. Ashworth's recommendations for each of the four (4) vehicles. Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve Mr. Ashworth's recommendations as stated. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Landfill Tipping Fees: Finance Director Brady Frick distributed information on the Schedule of Tipping Fee Collection from 7/1/89 - 1/31/91, as attached to these Minutes. The Board accepted as information.

There being no further business, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise J. Barrow  
Clerk to the Board