

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED SESSION - JANUARY 22, 1992
LANDIS TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM - LANDIS, NC

The Rowan County Board of Commissioners met in adjourned session, on Wednesday, January 22, 1992, at 7:00 p.m., in the Landis Town Hall Board Room, Landis, NC.

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

The County Manager, County Attorney, and Clerk to the Board were also in attendance.

Chairman Cohen called the meeting to order, thanked all citizens and officials in attendance, and Vice-Chairman Palmer gave the invocation.

APPROVAL AND SWEARING-IN OF REGISTER OF DEEDS:

Mr. Steve Agner, Chairman of the Rowan County Democratic Party, presented the official selection of Mrs. Bobbie Earnhardt as the choice for Rowan County Register of Deeds, as attached to these Minutes. Commissioner DeMarcus then made a motion to approve the choice, and to later have an Executive Session to arrange salary for the position. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

Clerk of Superior Court, Edward Norvell, administered the Oath of Office for Mrs. Earnhardt.

PROPOSAL FOR LAND RECORDS PILOT PROGRAM - REGISTER OF DEEDS, BOBBIE EARNHARDT:

Mrs. Earnhardt presented information regarding a proposed land records pilot program, as attached to these Minutes. County Manager Russell reminded the Board of a prior commitment, on the same caliber of proposal, through the County Assessor's Office. Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to approve the grant for the previously-considered proposal from County Assessor's Office. If the monies cannot be used there, it will be used for the Register of Deeds Office. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

ANNUAL REPORT ON OPERATIONS OF ROWAN TRANSIT SYSTEM - MR. JOHN EATON/MR. CLYDE FAHNESTOCK:

Mr. Fahnestock introduced Mr. John Eaton, President of CTS Management, and explained the information distributed, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Eaton presented the Annual Report, and answered questions from the Board. Mr. Fahnestock also explained a recent request, as attached to these Minutes, to allow the City of Salisbury to participate as a member of the Rowan Transit System, Inc. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to approve the request. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN MATCHING FUNDS FOR RTS EQUIPMENT PURCHASE - CLYDE FAHNESTOCK:

Mr. Fahnestock submitted copies of a purchase requisition, as attached to these Minutes, for radio equipment for the RTS. An additional \$6,186 is needed in matching funds, in order to receive State funding. The Board heard the presentation from the Rowan County Sheriff's Office before making their decision. Commissioner DeMarcus later made a motion to allocate the addition \$6,186 to RTS. Commissioner Webb seconded, and the vote was 3/2, with Chairman Cohen and Commissioner Welch against.

REPORT FROM SHERIFF BOB MARTIN ON JAIL POPULATION:

Sheriff Martin gave a presentation showing the overcrowded jail population, and the inevitable shortfall of funds, as a

result. He also reported that the radio tower still has not been relocated, as there would be no reason to relocate if the department is included in the 800-trunking system. However, Sheriff Martin continued, the deputies are still in danger, as communications are still inconsistent in some areas of the county.

Jail problems include overcrowded populations and food shortages. He expects their budget to be approximately \$32,000 overbudget by the end of the fiscal year. County Manager Russell showed excess in proposed revenues that can be transferred to the Sheriff's food budget, and also to allow the \$6,186 to RTS. Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to authorize the transfer as recommended by Mr. Russell. Commissioner Welch seconded, with unanimous approval.

REQUEST FROM TOWN OF CLEVELAND ON REOPENING CONVENIENCE CENTER FOR RECYCLING:

The Board reviewed a letter from Mayor Travis E. Hendren, as attached to these Minutes. The letter requests that the Amity Hill site be reopened and manned, one day per week. Don Conner, Environmental Services Director, suggested deferring the issue until he has been able to gather further information. By consensus, the Board will reschedule the issue to the February 3, 1992 meeting.

PROPOSAL TO BEGIN STUDYING COMPOSTING - COUNTY MANAGER:

Mr. Russell submitted information regarding the proposed study of composting, as attached to these Minutes. After careful review and consideration, Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to proceed with Stage 1. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Dave Roberts, Landis Board Member: thanked the Board of Commissioners for choosing Landis for their meeting, and invited them to return. He also updated the Board on the efforts by Landis to implement recycling.

Mr. Austin Mitchell, Kannapolis resident, added his

appreciation to the Board's meeting in Landis; however, he requests more time for the public to address issues in the future.

UPDATE ON IMPROVEMENT OF EMS STATION (N. MAIN ST.):

EMS Director, Wayne Ashworth, distributed information on a proposed relocation site, as attached to these Minutes. County Manager Russell also submitted bids from various contractors regarding the project. Mr. Ashworth requested authorization to negotiate a contract on the proposed site at the present Rowan Homes location. Commissioner Welch made a motion to accept Mr. Ashworth's recommendation to negotiate the contract. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

JOINT MEETING WITH PLANNING BOARD:

Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to meet jointly with the Planning Board, on 2/15/92, from 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., at the Seth Murdoch Auditorium, Agriculture Center. She also suggested that we send an acceptance for the plans to the Planning Board, and arrange to use the auditorium. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

There being no further regular business, Commissioner DeMarcus then made the motion to go into Executive Session. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

OTHER BUSINESS:

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Commissioner Webb made a motion to return to Regular Session. Commissioner Welch seconded, with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to set Ms. Earnhardt's salary at \$27,811, effective 1/22/92. The Register of Deeds position will not participate in County 401-K program, since Special Register of Deeds Retirement Program is available. Commissioner Welch seconded, and the vote was 4/1, with Commissioner DeMarcus voting against.

The schedule for the Second Monthly Meetings will be as follows:

February 17, 1992: Enochville Fire Department

March 16, 1992: Locke Fire Department

There being no further business, Commissioner Welch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise J. Barrow, CMC
Clerk to the Board