

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED MEETING - MAY 18, 1992
ROCKWELL TOWN HALL - ROCKWELL, NC

The Rowan County Board of Commissioners met in Adjourned Session, on Monday, May 18, 1992, at the Rockwell Town Hall, Rockwell, NC.

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 Representative (Kelly Wood) were also in attendance.

Chairman Cohen opened the meeting, and expressed thanks for the invitation to meet there. Commissioner Welch gave the invocation.

DISCUSSION ON SERVICE DISTRICT FOR CLEVELAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve the request to establish a service district for the Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded. Commissioner Welch reminded the Board of his motion from a previous meeting, seconded by Vice-Chairman Palmer, in which he suggested that the citizens be allowed to petition to become a service district. The motion was then deferred to this meeting. After continued discussion, Vice-Chairman Palmer withdrew his second, therefore, Commissioner Welch's motion died.

Commissioner DeMarcus then called for the question, and the vote was 4/1, with Commissioner Welch abstaining.

Later in the meeting, the County Attorney addressed Commissioner DeMarcus' question, regarding the additional public nominations for Fire Commissioners. He felt that the Board would not be limited in their nominations for these appointments, according to General Statutes. Commissioner Webb read the nominations received. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to

appoint five (5) Fire Commissioners. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

Commissioner DeMarcus then nominated Robert Knox, III and Don Patterson; Vice-Chairman Palmer nominated Tom Hardesty and Nettie Cline; Commissioner Welch nominated F. Grady Hall. Commissioner DeMarcus then made a motion to close the nominations. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval. The aforementioned nominations will serve as Fire Commissioners for the Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department Service District.

Commissioner Webb noted a request to the County, from the Rowan County Rescue Squad, for financial assistance with the hepatitis vaccinations, in conjunction with financial assistance from the United Way. According to County Manager Russell, the approximate cost would be \$100/each. Commissioner DeMarcus will explore options through the Health Department, and report findings at the June 1st meeting.

CLARIFICATION ON PROPOSED RESOLUTION FROM LEE COUNTY - COUNTY ATTORNEY/COUNTY MANAGER:

The Board discussed a Resolution from Lee County, which they had previously reviewed, as attached to these Minutes. County Attorney, John Holshouser, explained that, if the Commission adopted the "spirit" of the Resolution, he would be able to reword it for clarification. For the benefit of the public, County Manager Russell explained the context of the Resolution. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to accept the "spirit" of the Resolution, ask the County Attorney to redraft the language for clarification, then send to Mr. Ron Aycock at NCACC, and also to the Raleigh delegation. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

UPDATE ON YADKIN/PEE DEE LAKES STUDY RESOLUTION - COUNTY MANAGER:

County Manager Russell submitted information on the Yadkin/Pee Dee Lakes Project, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Russell explained the cost of approximately \$30,000 from local sources (\$2,500 from Rowan County) toward the total project cost of \$207,200. Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to accept this issue as information at present, and defer it to the upcoming Budget Planning Meeting. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

PROPOSED ROCKWELL SEWER LINE - MAYOR HAROLD EARNHARDT:

Rockwell Mayor, Harold Earnhardt, previously submitted information regarding a proposed sewer system for the Town of Rockwell, as attached to these Minutes. Mayor Earnhardt requested County participation for repayment of the project, which is estimated at a cost of \$3.7 million. No interest/costs will be incurred until completion of the project (10/93 or early 1994). According to Mayor Earnhardt, of the 9-mile proposed line, 7-miles will be into the County, and 2-miles within the Rockwell city limits.

In closing, Mayor Earnhardt stated the Town's support of the proposed East Rowan Ambulance site.

PROPOSED EAST ROWAN AMBULANCE SITE - MR. WALTER BOGER:

Mr. Walter Boger addressed the Board, and distributed information regarding support for a proposed East Rowan Ambulance Site, as attached to these Minutes. Chairman Cohen assured Mr. Boger that the issue would be addressed as a #1 priority in the 1992-93 budget year.

APPROVAL OF PUBLIC HEARING (6/1/92) FOR HOME & COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT:

Finance Director, Brady Frick, explained the need for the proposed Public Hearing. Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to set the public hearing for 6/1/92, at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

PROPOSED ABANDONMENT OF RAILROAD STREET (ROCKWELL):

County Manager Russell explained the recent request to close a portion of Railroad Street in Rockwell. The Board reviewed various maps, as attached to these Minutes. According to a study/survey from N.C.D.O.T., it was determined not to be a state-maintained road. County Attorney Holshouser explained that, if it lies within the Town limits, it would be within the jurisdiction of the Town to close it, by action of the Town Council; however, it was later determined not to be within the Town limits. Vice-Chairman Palmer then made a motion to accept the request as submitted, with a Resolution of Intent. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval. Commissioner DeMarcus then made a motion to hold a public hearing, on Monday, July 6, 1992, at 9:30 a.m., in the Red Room of the Community Building, for the purpose of entertaining public comment concerning the issue. Vice-Chairman

Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT VEHICLES - COUNTY
MANAGER:

The Board reviewed a request previously submitted, regarding transferring two (2) used Sheriff's Department vehicles, as attached to these Minutes. Livingstone College and Franklin Township Fire Department have requested the vehicles. Commissioner Welch made a motion to approve the request from Franklin Township Fire Department. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval. Commissioner Welch spoke against the request from Livingstone College, stating he felt they should provide their own vehicle. County Attorney Holshouser will explore possible legalities involved on behalf of the County, and report findings at the 6/1/92 meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

* Commissioner Welch discussed the recent correspondence from Board of Elections Supervisor, Pat Nelson, regarding her proposed retirement, as of 6/30/92. He then made a motion to recognize her with a citation of appreciation at the 6/1/92 meeting. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded. Commissioner DeMarcus asked to amend the motion to include retiring Health Department Director, Herbert Hawley. Commissioner Welch accepted the amendment, as did the Board, with unanimous approval.

* Commissioner DeMarcus requested an update on the 5/15/92 meeting, regarding the White Hill Community CDBG Grant Application. County Manager Russell provided the information.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

* Mr. Ed Haden: voiced his concerns regarding the County seal/logo, and whether or not it has a trademark. According to Mr. Haden, the County seal was used in a political candidate's recent newspaper ad. The County Attorney will investigate what areas of enforcement may be used, and report back with information on costs, trademark, etc.

Second, Mr. Haden also expressed his concerns regarding the use of the old West Rowan Middle School. He opposed the idea of donating the building to the Town of Cleveland.

In closing, Mr. Haden opposed the funding of Baker's Creek

Park, which is inside the City limits of Kannapolis (in Rowan County). Also, he requested that the Board equally fund the recreation program for the City of Salisbury, just as they do for Baker's Creek Park.

* Mr. Austin Mitchell spoke in favor of the funding to Baker's Creek Park.

There being no further business, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise J. Barrow, CMC
Clerk to the Board
(Recorded by Kelly Wood)