

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADJOURNED SESSION - AUGUST 17, 1992  
RED ROOM - COMMUNITY BUILDING

The Rowan County Board of Commissioners met in adjourned session, on Monday, August 17, 1992, at 7:00 p.m., in the Red Room of the Community Building.

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, Finance Director, County Attorney, and Clerk to the Board were also in attendance.

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

UPDATE ON HEALTH DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT:

Commissioner DeMarcus announced that the replacement for Mr. Bert Hawley had been selected. She then introduced Mr. and Mrs. John David Shaw, to the Board and audience. Mr. Shaw will assume the duties of Health Director as of 10/01/92. In conclusion, Commissioner DeMarcus introduced Health Board members in attendance.

At this time, Commissioner Webb made a motion to open the public hearing. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

PUBLIC HEARING - JAIL/COURTHOUSE FINANCING:

Chairman Cohen then declared the hearing open, and received comments from the audience:

Fannie Gobble: stated her concerns regarding the court system.

Ed Haden: stated his concerns regarding interest rates over the long-term payoff

Wayne Upright: opposes the project

W. F. Owens: opposes the project

Don Lyerly: wants project complex out in the county, rather than downtown Salisbury.

Don Hamilton: disappointed with judicial system holding prisoners too long in the County jail.

Ralph Morgan: thinks the court dockets should be rearranged for more effective scheduling; thanked the Board for their services.

Larry Burton: concerned that EMS needs assistance instead of spending the money for jail/courthouse complex.

Anonymous Citizen: asked the disposition of the Prisoner Legal Services suit against Rowan County. County Attorney, John Holshouser, replied that it was still in the "discovery stage".

Ray Yost: stated the need to increase efficiency, not build a bigger facility.

With no one else wishing to speak, Vice-Chairman Palmer made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

#### APPROVAL OF TRUSTEE FOR JAIL/COURTHOUSE PROJECT:

The Board previously reviewed information regarding Request for Proposals to Provide Trustee Services, as attached to these Minutes. Finance Director, Brady Frick, also distributed a summation of responses from the requests, as attached. After reviewing the information, Mr. Frick recommended selecting Nations Bank as trustee. Commissioner DeMarcus then made a motion to approve the recommendation. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

#### DISCUSSION ON LEGISLATIVE GOALS:

County Manager, Tim Russell, explained that the deadline for submission was upcoming. The Board also discussed mandated funds, and the proposed "Homestead Act".

#### UPDATE ON COMPOSTING:

Dr. Bob Rubin, N. C. State University, gave a slide presentation on composting. Dr. Rubin explained the cost vs. benefits and procedures of the operation. He then answered questions from the Board and the audience.

DISCUSSION OF ROWAN/SALISBURY SCHOOLS TO TRANSFER FORMER WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL PROPERTY:

The Board previously considered the proposal from Rowan/Salisbury Schools to transfer the former West Rowan Middle School, to the possession of Rowan County. For the benefit of the audience, Chairman Cohen explained the purpose and procedure of the proposal. After continued discussion, Commissioner Webb made a motion to decline the offer, and allow the Schools to dispose of the property accordingly. Vice-Chairman Palmer seconded, with unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

At this time, Chairman Cohen entertained general public comments from the audience:

Barbara Earnhardt: supports Bonnie Smith; suggested the County reappoint her with a salary.

Bonnie Lentz: supports Bonnie Smith; suggested reappointment as County Animal Cruelty Investigator.

Ed Haden: discussed funds given to Schools during asbestos removal operation; wants Schools' budgets reduced by the \$900,000 they were awarded in lawsuit.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner DeMarcus gave closing comments, saying the Board is aware of Ms. Smith's efforts, and love for animals, and will do all possible to assure the safety of animals within the County.

Commissioner Webb discussed the resolutions passed at the recent N.C.A.C.C. meeting, and announced the new officers.

There being no further business, Commissioner DeMarcus made a motion to adjourn the meeting to September 8, 1992 at 9:00 a.m., in the Red Room of the Community Building. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Daugherty, CMC  
Clerk to the Board