

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CONTINUED BUDGET DISCUSSION - FEBRUARY 13, 1993  
RED ROOM - COMMUNITY BUILDING

The Rowan County Board of Commissioners met in Adjourned Session, on Saturday, February 13, 1993, at 9:00 a.m., in the Red Room of the Community Building.

PRESENT: J. Newton Cohen, Chairman  
Thomas M. Webb, Vice-Chairman  
Jamima P. DeMarcus, Member  
Charles H. Welch, Member  
Steven Todd Arey (9:10 a.m.)

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

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES:

\* Fire & Communications: EMS Director, Wayne Ashworth/ Supervisor, Frank Thomason/Manager, Beth Connell addressed the Board to present their budget requests, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Ashworth echoed concerns and support of an employee benefits package. High priority requests included a Communication Director Position, and various data processing equipment.

\* Emergency Medical Services: The Board reviewed budget requests, also presented by Mr. Ashworth, and attached to these Minutes. Priority requests included a full-time Training Officer, renovations of ambulance stations, and various equipment.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

Chief Deputy, Tim Bost, and School Superintendent, Don Martin, addressed the Board to discuss the proposed grant application. The grant would fund four (4) deputies to be placed in area high schools. Chairman Cohen posed the question: at the end of the two year period, would the Assistant Principals replace the deputies, in order to alleviate continued funding? Chief Bost reviewed the application, to which Dr. Martin supported the application for the grant. Board members questioned that, perhaps, a "wrong message" was being sent to schools, by implementing minor punishments for serious offenses.

Commissioner Arey made a motion to submit the application, and, if it is accepted, review it at the end of the grant period (2 years). Commissioner Welch seconded, and the vote was:

Chairman Cohen: against                      Commissioner Arey: for  
Vice-Chairman Webb: against              Commissioner Welch: for  
Commissioner DeMarcus: undecided; she requested that it be tabled for now, and another vote be brought forth later in the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES:

\* Environmental Services: Director, Don Conner, presented budget requests for Environmental Services Division, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Conner also stated the need for an employee benefits package.

\* Landfill: Mr. Conner explained the need for a \$6/ton increase in tipping fees at the landfill, in order to begin reserving funds for the closing of the first cell.

PLANNING:

County Planner, Danny Johnson, along with Board Chairman, Roscoe Giles, and Mr. David Roberts addressed the Board, to explain budget requests, as attached to these Minutes. Special emphasis was placed on:

- (1) Development of mandatory program to implement/administer Public Water Supply Watershed Regulations/Rules.
- (2) Development/Enforcement of County Subdivision Ordinance,
- (3) Development of computerized County mapping and geographic

data system.

- (4) Transfer of Official Road Names/Street Address Program from EMS to County Planning Department.

FINANCE:

Finance Director, Brady Frick, explained budget needs for the Finance Office, as attached to these Minutes. Top priority requests included:

- (1) Merit Pay Plan
- (2) Payroll/Personnel System, and
- (3) Certificate Program

Mr. Frick also distributed a report from the Local Government Commission, as attached to these Minutes.

COUNTY ASSESSOR:

County Assessor, Jerry Rowland, gave an update on the implementation of House Bill 20. The Board also reviewed departmental budget requests, as attached to these Minutes. High priority requests included the addition of a Revaluation Project Supervisor.

TAX COLLECTOR:

Tax Collector, Wayne Simpson, did not present information for budgetary requests. Mr. Simpson did, however, present written comments of office operations, as attached to these Minutes.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS:

Supervisor, Nancy Evans, explained budget requests, as attached to these Minutes. High priority requests included an additional staff person. Mrs. Evans distributed additional information, regarding the precinct sizes, and possible future divisions of precincts, also attached. According to Mrs. Evans, House Bill 2 has recently passed in the House of Representatives, and will now go before the Senate. She also stated her support for an employee benefits package.

SENIOR SERVICES:

Director, Clyde Fahnestock, Advisory Board Chairman, Ruth Gulledge, and member, Virginia Graves, addressed the Board, to review budget needs, as attached to these Minutes. Also noted, was the support for an employee benefit package. High priorities included:

- (1) Supplemental Meals (Mr. Fahnestock explained the Ensure Meal Program)
- (2) In-Home Aide Respite Service
- (3) EDTAP Transportation Funding

DATA PROCESSING:

Director, David Boling, presented departmental budget requests, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Boling introduced the option of printing tax bills on postcards, which would offer the County a substantial savings (\$30,000). He also suggested that Data Processing be allocated a lump-sum annually, in lieu of individual departments, to purchase various equipment.

GENERAL SERVICES:

Director, Carl Sloop, presented duties of the department, and reviewed budget requests, as attached to these Minutes. Mr. Sloop echoed the need for an employee benefits package, and stated concerns regarding low salaries in his department.

PERSONNEL/VETERANS SERVICE:

Personnel Director, Ken Deal, stated his support for an employee benefits package. He briefly explained all goals/needs of the Personnel Department, as attached to these Minutes.

COUNTY MANAGER:

Mr. Russell stated his support for an employee benefits package. He also explained the various needs throughout the County, for consideration, as attached to these Minutes. Highlights included:

- (1) Comprehensive Salary/Benefit Package for Employees
- (2) Composting
- (3) New Landfill Cell Permit/Design
- (4) Reappraisal Plan for 1995
- (5) New Jail/Court Facilities
- (6) Infrastructure Plan
- (7) Public School Funding
- (8) House Bill 20 Implementation
- (9) "800" Communication System Equipment Acquisition
- (10) County Self-Insurance Program
- (11) Dissolution of Tri-County Area Mental Health Program
- (12) Development of Master Park Land Acquisition Plan
- (13) Automation of Voting Equipment
- (14) Automation of GIS Mapping System
- (15) Airport Improvement Program
- (16) County parking: Master Acquisition Plan
- (17) County Motor Pool/Garage
- (18) Upgrade Finance and Payroll/Personnel Software

Mr. Russell also distributed a Review of Existing County Government Facilities, (as attached to these Minutes) for review, and later discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

\* Chairman Cohen gave suggestions on implementing a merit system.

\* The Board continued their discussion and gave personal opinions on the proposed grant for "school deputies". Commissioner Welch made a substitute motion to give Board approval for the grant proposal to be submitted to Raleigh on Monday; to be reviewed in eighteen (18) months. The Board of Commissioners would then review events which may have transpired (with the use of on-site school deputies) if the funding for the grant was received. Commissioner Arey seconded, and the vote was 4/1, with Commissioner Webb against.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Welch made a motion to adjourn the meeting to Monday, February 15, 1993, at 7:00 p.m., at Cleveland Lion's Den. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Daugherty, CMC

Clerk to the Board