

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION - SEPTEMBER 7, 1993  
SETH MURDOCH AUDITORIUM, AGRICULTURE BUILDING

The Rowan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session, on Tuesday September 7, 1993, at 9:00 a.m., in the Seth Murdoch Auditorium of the Agriculture Building.

PRESENT: J. Newton Cohen, Chairman  
Thomas M. Webb, Chairman  
Jamima DeMarcus, Member  
Charles Welch, Member (9:30)  
Steven Todd Arey, Member

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

Chairman Cohen called the meeting to order, with Commissioner DeMarcus giving the invocation.

MINUTES:

The following minutes were submitted for approval:

\*August 9, 1993 (Regular)

\*August 16, 1993 (Adjourned)

There being no corrections Commissioner DeMarcus moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Arey seconded, with unanimous approval.

TAX COLLECTOR' REPORT

Tax Collector Wayne Simpson gave the preliminary August 1993 Report, as attached to these minutes. He also expounded on vehicle tax collection.

DONATION:

Parks Director Jim Foltz presented the Board with a donation from

ALCOA in the amount of \$2,000. Special Populations is to receive \$1500, with Dan Nicholas receiving the remaining \$500, for the purchase of new playground equipment.

BAKER'S CREEK FUNDING:

Members from the Cabarrus-Rowan Park Commission addressed the Board with a request to increase it's FY94 allocation by \$7050. The increase would be used for capital improvements to meet ADA regulations. Commissioner Webb moved to approve the request, noting Baker's Creek Park as a vital Park to the South Rowan Area. Commissioner DeMarcus reiterated the parks importance and seconded, with unanimous approval.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ROAD NAME REVISIONS:

Commissioner Webb moved to open the floor for public comment on the proposed road name changes. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

EMS Director Wayne Ashworth presented the Board with nine proposed road name changes. They were:

<u>Proposed Names</u>	<u>Present Name</u>
1. Ironwood Drive	Not Presently Named
2. Rabbit Run Drive	4th Street
3. Honeysuckle Lane	1st Street
4. Gibson Road	Bally Road
5. Hardin Drive	Central Drive
6. Beaver Dam Road	Not Presently Named
7. Rodeo Drive	Circle Drive
8. Fred Lane	Not Presently Named
9. Dickson Drive	Trexler Drive

There being no public comment Commissioner Webb moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Arey seconded, with unanimous approval.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to accept the proposed name changes. Commissioner Arey seconded, with unanimous approval.

CONCERNED CITIZEN:

Dr. O.C. Dumas had sent a letter to the Board expressing his concerns for the name change of Dumas Road. Mrs. Claryee Dumas, his wife, addressed the Board and questioned why she and her husband were not notified before Dumas Road was changed to Veronica Lane. She stated that they owned three homes on this road and did not know of the change, to which they objected, until it had been passed. County Manger Tim Russell responded that County staff had followed up on this issue during the past weeks and according to tax maps the Dumas family did not own property on Dumas road, but on a side road known as Joe Lewis Road. He said a poll of the property owners revealed nine out of 10 owners were in favor of the change.

REPORT OF PARKING PLAN:

Mayor Margaret Kluttz, Mayor Pro-tem Hap Alexander, City Manager David Treme, Engineer Dan Mikkelson, and Consultant Frank Greiner addressed the Board with concerns and proposals for Downtown parking. They showed graphs defining parking needs and the need for additional parking with the Justice Center and Old Post Office projects.

Commissioner DeMarcus moved to continue the partnership with the City to address and solve parking problems. Commissioner Arey seconded, with unanimous approval. Chairman Cohen noted that he and Commissioner Webb would be the Board liaisons to work with the City's parking committee.

DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED MINIMUM HOUSING ORDINANCE:

Planner Danny Johnson provided the Board with an amendment to the Minimum Housing Ordinance that concerned standards for basic plumbing, heating, and electrical equipment. Commissioners Arey and DeMarcus commended the Planning Board for their diligence in writing the ordinance draft. Commissioner Webb stated that he still had a few questions about the ordinance and requested that action to set a public hearing be deferred until the September 20, 1993 meeting. Chairman Cohen agreed.

CONCERN OF BOARD OF ELECTIONS ON RELOCATION OF OFFICES:

Board of Elections Chairman Herman Beaver addressed the Board with his concerns about moving the Board of Elections office to the renovated Old Post Office Building. He cited limited space and accessibility as two major reasons he objects to the move.

Architect Bill Burgin who was next on the agenda requested more time to work with the Board of Elections. He feels that he could redesign the space to meet their needs. Commissioner DeMarcus stated that the Commissioners were content with the current design of the Finance and Personnel Offices and perhaps the space in question should not be redesigned at this time, leaving both Planning and Board of Elections in their present offices. Chairman Cohen then directed Mr. Burgin to work with the Board of Elections to assess their needs and to design a space that may be suitable to them.

Mr. Burgin also showed the Board a revised sketch in which the handicap ramp had been moved from the front to the middle of the right side of the building, allowing for easier accessibility.

APPROVAL OF ROWAN COUNTY AIRPORT POLICY:

Larry Jones and Carl Sloop presented the Board with a revised Airport Policy which implemented the previous changes requested by the Board. Commissioner Arey questioned the wording of the policy and expressed concern that it creates the Airport Board as an authority instead of an advisory board. Commissioner DeMarcus suggested that any action on the policy be deferred until the correct authority structure can be determined. Commissioner Welch suggested a workshop with both Boards to work on the policy and Chairman Cohen asked that County Attorney John Holshouser review and submit his comments for change.

APPROVAL OF METHANE RECOVERY TRENCH BIDS:

Environmental Services Director Don Conner presented the Board with two bids received for the methane recovery trench at the old landfill. The bids were from A-Plus Construction for \$34,800 and from PAPCO for \$98,750. Mr. Conner stated the great difference in bids is a result of the explosive nature of the gas the construction crew would be working with. A-Plus Construction has had experience working with this gas and he therefore recommended they be awarded the job. Commissioner DeMarcus moved that A-Plus Construction be awarded the bid for 34,800. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

APPROVAL FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS MICROFILM EQUIPMENT BIDS:

Purchasing Agent Vicki McCombs presented the Board with the sole bid received from Kodak for five IMT-350 Microimage Terminals. The purchase will be made on an installment contract. Commissioner DeMarcus moved that Kodak be awarded the contract. Commissioner Welch

seconded, with unanimous approval.

Mrs. McCombs also presented the Board with a request from the Health Department to sell outdated x-ray equipment no longer being used. Chairman Cohen stated he had received a letter from Mr. Tucker with the C.T. Harris company, who suggested the County keep the equipment. He requested Health Director John Shaw to investigate the future needs of the Health Department to determine if the equipment would be needed.

REVIEW OF COUNTY SMOKING POLICY:

John Shaw discussed with Commissioners the proposed smoking rules determined by the Health Board. It would prohibit smoking in all local government buildings, and strongly encourage all private business owners to prohibit smoking on their premises. It also states that the business must display signs stating whether smoking is allowed. If it is allowed the owner must display a sign stating the health warning of the danger of smoking. Commissioner Webb stated that he supported the smoking policy but wanted to be sure that it did not discriminate against people who smoke. The Health Board will now officially draw up it's proposal and hold a public hearing in order to have it adopted and in effect before October 15, 1993.

ARCHITECTURAL CHANGE ORDERS:

Bob Byrd whose firm, J.N. Pease & Associates, is handling the Justice Center Project, submitted to the Board a change order that would allow a thirty day extension to cover all possible delays for which Rowan County could be responsible through August 15, 1993. Commissioners noted their concerns with the extensions and the time the project is behind. Commissioner Webb then moved to grant the request for the thirty day extension. Commissioner Arey seconded, and the voted passed 4/1, with Commissioner Welch voting against.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SMART START INITIATIVE:

Dr. Shirley Ritchie discussed with the Board the Smart Start Initiative and their goals, as attached to these minutes. Commissioner Welch expressed his concerns on the early age of enrollment, the number of children the center could enroll, and the fact Catawba College would own the facility. Dr. Ritchie responded the number to be enrolled is not a set figure but could change as could the size of the facility and the owner. Catawba College had agreed to donate land but other sites

were also being explored. Commissioner DeMarcus moved to approve the Resolution in support of the Smart Start program. Commissioner Arey seconded, and the vote passed 4/1, with Commissioner Welch voting against.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Community Based Alternatives Task Force: The Commission deferred action until the task force has a chance to meet and submit names for nomination.

Domiciliary Home Advisory Committee: Mr. Billy C. Rufty and Mrs. Anna Bailey were both eligible for reappointment. Commissioner Webb moved to reappoint Mr. Rufty and Mrs. Bailey. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

Rowan County Housing Authority: Mr. William Hannah's term expired 9/1/93 and he was eligible for reappointment. Commissioner DeMarcus moved to reappoint Mr. Hannah. Chairman Cohen seconded, with unanimous approval.

Salisbury-Rowan Human Relations Council: Mrs. Catherine Rivens was eligible for reappointment. Commissioner DeMarcus noted Mrs. Rivens dedication to the Human Relations Council. Commissioner Arey moved to reappoint Mrs. Rivens. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

Town of Granite Quarry: The town of Granite Quarry requested the Board to appoint Mr. Stanton Cross to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Howard Brown, Jr. on their planning board. Commissioner Arey moved to approve the request. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, with unanimous approval.

Proposal to study advisory and policy making boards: An outline was submitted to the Board for areas of discussion on the roles and length of terms for the various County boards. Chairman Cohen suggested he and Commissioner DeMarcus would work with the outline and make a proposal to present to the rest of the Commissioners at a later time.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Interest: Manager Tim Russell reported the interest earned through 8/31/93 was \$31,009 with the percentage collected being 10.3%.

Refunds: Various refunds from Environmental Services, Health Department, and Ambulance Collections were submitted for approval. Commissioner DeMarcus moved to approve the refunds as submitted. Chairman Cohen seconded, with unanimous approval.

Title for Bond Referendum: A title had not yet been decided for the Bond Referendum ballot. Commissioner DeMarcus moved to use the name, "Rowan County Public School Bonds". Commissioner Arey seconded, with unanimous approval.

Outline for Composting Study: Manager Tim Russell reviewed an outline for the composting study which stated needs and goals and the steps to achieve a composting project. Commissioner DeMarcus commended the work that went into compiling the outline.

OTHER BUSINESS:

\*Commissioner Webb congratulated the American Legion Baseball team for it's state championship, and suggested the Board recognize their achievement. Commissioner DeMarcus suggested to invite the Team to an evening Commission meeting where they could be recognized and presented with a Rowan County t-shirt. The Board unanimously agreed.

\*Chairman Cohen stated he had received a letter from the North Carolina Wildlife Federation asking the Board to name September 25, 1993 as National Hunting and Fishing Day. The request for each county had been endorsed by Governor Hunt. Chairman Cohen moved to proclaim September 25, 1993 as National Hunting and Fishing Day. Chairman Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

There being no other business Commissioner DeMarcus moved to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, and property acquisition. Commissioner Arey seconded, with unanimous approval.

Upon conclusion Commissioner DeMarcus moved to return to regular session and to adjourn the meeting until 7:30 p.m. at which time the public hearing for the proposed School Bonds is to be held. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully Submitted

Kelly King,  
Clerk to the Board