

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADJOURNED SESSION - NOVEMBER 15, 1993,
SETH MURDOCH AUDITORIUM, AGRICULTURE BUILDING

PRESENT: J. Newton Cohen, Chairman
Thomas M. Webb, Vice-Chairman
Jamima DeMarcus, Member
Charles H. Welch, Member
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 and Commissioner Webb gave the invocation.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

*Commissioner Arey stated he would like to explain graphs, as attached to these minutes, he had distributed to the Board.

*Commissioner Webb stated he would like to commend staff for their work with the Rowan-Salisbury Schools tours.

*Chairman Cohen noted a letter received from the Rowan-Salisbury School Board requesting endorsement to apply for an Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Grant. He then recognized Mr. Tim Smith, Health Director for the Schools. Mr. Smith explained the grant process, which would begin with a 80% grant the first year and decrease to 50% on the fifth and final year. Mr. Smith explained to the Board that the County's share could be used from in-kind monies. Commissioner DeMarcus then moved to endorse the application for the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Grant and to endorse the Rowan-Salisbury School Board to be the responsible body for the grant. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

DISCUSSION ON PLANS FOR COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK:

Mr. Bob Goforth, with the C.R. Sirrene Company, addressed the Board concerning his company and their capabilities to aid Rowan County in the location of an Industrial Park. Mr. Goforth displayed parks for other areas his company had master planned. He also explained the steps and approximate costs necessary to begin plans for an industrial park.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT FOR COUNTY:

Mr. Pete Teague and Ms. Denise Sloan from Dixon, Odom and Company presented the Board with their findings from the annual financial audit, as attached to these minutes.

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SELL DONATED STOCK:

Finance Director Brady Frick requested the Board authorization to sell thirty-eight shares of Lowes Stock which was donated to the Library. Mr. Frick stated the value of the stock was approximately \$1800. Commissioner Arey moved to grant authorization for the sale of the donated stock. Commissioner Welch seconded, with unanimous approval.

RESOLUTIONS AWARDING BIDS FOR TELEPHONES, FURNISHINGS AND PANEL SYSTEMS AT THE JUSTICE CENTER:

Vicki McCombs presented the Board with three resolutions awarding bids. The first Resolution recommended Tri-Com Communications be awarded the contract for a telephone system. They had the low bid at \$20,733. Commissioner Arey moved to award the bid to Tri-Com Communications. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval. The second resolution was for a paneling system for the Sheriff's Department, and recommended the contract be with Forms and Supply. They were the low bid at \$31,808.72. Commissioner Arey asked Mrs. McCombs about the vast difference in prices submitted. She explained the dealers were giving quotes for different manufacturers and the other bidders had included many "extras" in their package. She felt Forms and Supply met the needs at hand. Commissioner Webb then moved to award the bid to Forms and Supply. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, and the vote was unanimous. The third resolution was to award the contract for furnishings to MacThrift Office Furniture. MacThrift was the low bid with \$37,670.46. Commissioner delayed a decision awarding this bid until Mrs. McCombs could view the

furniture to determine it's quality.

DISCUSSION OF RENEWAL OF CABLE VISION FRANCHISE:

Mr. Bob Melton with Cablevision of the Metrolina, Inc. and Mr. George Little of Cablevision of Salisbury, Inc. addressed the Board concerning the franchise renewal for their companies. They requested a fifteen year renewal. Commissioner DeMarcus suggested a term of ten years instead. County Attorney John Holshouser stated the Board would have to hold a public hearing thirty days prior to a decision being made. Mr. Melton said a public hearing had been held when the issue of renewal was first discussed. Commissioner DeMarcus suggested a second hearing be held. Tim Russell stated he wasn't sure if the hearing was advertised as a public hearing and it may be in the County's best interest to hold another hearing. Chairman Cohen reminded everyone of the changes that had been made to the agreement since it was first presented. The franchise fee was increased from 3% to 5%, the length of the agreement was shortened from fifteen years to ten, and the density requirement was changed from forty-five homes to twenty. Commissioner Arey moved to present the agreement with the changes at a public hearing on December 20, 1993 at 7:15 P.M. and to extend the current agreement until December 21, 1993. Mr. Melton questioned if two public hearings would be in violation. Mr. Holshouser responded that one public hearing is a minimum not a maximum. Commissioner Welch then made a substitute motion to accept the proposed agreement with the changes. Commissioner Arey seconded, and the motion passed 4/1 with Commissioner DeMarcus voting against.

DISCUSSION OF RESOURCES FOR CABLE REGULATIONS:

Mr. Russell discussed information with the Board of resources which would be necessary for the Board to regulate cable. He stated a small amount of work would be required but it would mainly be by comparison using the Benchmark's published by the Federal Communications Commission. The County could only regulate the basic cable charge. Commissioner DeMarcus moved to regulate the basic cable services. Commissioner Webb seconded, and the motion passed 4/1, with Commissioner Welch voting against.

APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR PURCHASE OF COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT FOR 800 SYSTEM:

The Board was presented with a proposal compiled by Communications Director Frank Thomason. The recommendation showed three different priorities of radios needed and the departments requesting to be on the upgraded radio system. The Board had set aside \$225,000 each year for the 800 trunking system to be paid to the city. Mr. Russell said this money could be used annually pay for the needed radios over a five year period. Chairman Cohen questioned the need by some departments to be on the new system. Al Linker, City of Salisbury, explained the current UHF/VHF radios would possibly be obsolete within the next five years and a switch now would save money in the long run. Commissioner Welch asked Mr. Thomason if he would rework the recommendation to exclude the departments that do not have a need for the new radios. Chairman Cohen suggested the old radios from the Sheriff's Office should be used by departments that do not have as great a need. Commissioner Webb moved to table this issue until the December 6, 1993 meeting so Mr. Thomason could prepare information on the cost of maintaining two systems. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, and asked that Mr. Thomason also bring information on how long the present system would be useful. Chairman Cohen then offered a substitute motion to order the console units for the Sheriff's Department and Emergency Services and delay purchase of twenty radios for other departments. Commissioner Welch seconded. Chairman Cohen then withdrew his motion and Commissioner Webb's previous motion to table the issue passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF POTENTIAL COUNTY OWNED SITES FOR LOCATION OF ANIMAL SHELTER:

Mr. Russell discussed with the Board ten County owned sites as possibilities for the new Animal Shelter. Commissioner DeMarcus stated she had visited site four (Old Concord Rd. at Julian Rd.) and felt this would be a good site to explore because it met many of the needs the Health Board had hoped to meet with the relocation. The Board decided by consensus to explore the cost of using this land and the possibility of rezoning for the intended use.

MEET THE CHALLENGE: ANIMAL SHELTER GROUP:

Gina Dawson, Don Claire, Rita Peter, Barbara Eanrhardt and Samantha Taylor who have worked with the Meet The Challenge Group

to raise money for the Animal Shelter, each addressed the Board with their requests for the new Animal Shelter. They requested the new shelter be equipped with an education room, a spay/neuter clinic, and be located where people will feel more comfortable coming to the shelter to adopt animals.

REVIEW OF OLD POST OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATION:

Architect Bill Burgin presented the Board with a budget for the Old Post Office Renovation, as attached to these minutes. Commissioner Webb pointed out the budget included sales tax, for which the county is reimbursed, thereby lowering the figures by at least \$46,000. Mr. Burgin explained that gathering bids for the asbestos abatement may change the figures since the market is so varied. Commissioner Arey moved to proceed with the bids for abatement and to proceed with the project establishing and not exceeding the budget submitted. Commissioner DeMarcus seconded, and the motion passed 4/1, with Commissioner Welch voting against.

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON ROAD NAME CHANGE:

Planner Ed Muire presented the Board with two unanimous road name changes, Wood Ridge Drive and Echo Hollow Drive. Commissioner Arey moved to approve these two changes. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval. Mr. Muire also requested a public hearing for Old Cress Road, Mayberry Lane, and Blue Jay Lane. Commissioner Webb moved to set a public hearing on December 6, 1993 at 9:30 A.M. Commissioner Arey seconded, with unanimous approval.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON WATERSHED PROTECTION ORDINANCE:

Members from the County Planning board presented it's draft for the Watershed Protection Ordinance. Members discussed the effect on home business' under the ordinance. Danny Johnson stated the County ordinance was more lenient than the State and if residential business was not included, citizens would have to follow state standards. Chairman Cohen suggested the Board of Commissioner hold a work session with members of the planning board to work on the draft. Commissioner Webb also asked that the subdivision ordinance be added to the worksession. He then moved to set a public hearing on the Watershed Ordinance on December 6, 1993 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agriculture Building. Commissioner Arey

seconded, with unanimous approval.

APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR EXPANSION OF AIRPORT RAMP AREA:

Mr. Russell asked that this item be delayed due to a no bid. This will be rebid and brought to the Board at a later date.

OTHER BUSINESS:

*Commissioner DeMarcus reminded the Board of the Yadkin Pee Dee symposium at Pfeiffer College on November 18, 1993 at 7:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was scheduled due to the length of the meeting, but at the insistence of Terry and Jerry Burnham, Commissioners agreed to let them speak. Mr. Burnham addressed the Board concerning his problems attaining cable services in his area. He felt the Board should not have renewed the cable franchise without more demands being placed on the cable company. He also requested the date of the first public hearing stating if one had been held he was not sure it was publicized.

There being no further comments Commissioner Arey moved to enter Executive Session. Commissioner Webb seconded, with unanimous approval.

Upon conclusion of the executive Session no action was taken. Commissioner Arey moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Webb seconded, and the Board agreed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly King.
Clerk to the Board