

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 3, 1995
SETH MURDOCH AUDITORIUM, AGRICULTURE BUILDING

PRESENT: Todd Arey, Chairman
Thomas M. Webb, Vice-Chairman
J. Newton Cohen, Member
James B. Neely, Member
Steve Blount, Member

The County Manager, Clerk to the Board, Finance Director and County Attorney were also in attendance. Chairman Arey called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

CORRESPONDENCE:

* The office of the State Treasurer submitted a schedule for the sale the school general obligation bonds. Commissioner Arey requested the Manager to contact Moody's to obtain a list of things the County could do to improve it's credit rating.

* An invitation was received from the Rufty-Holmes Senior Center for the Board to conduct a meeting at their facility. They also invited the Board to a Breakfast to precede the meeting. Commissioner Arey asked the Manager to convey the Board's wishes to hold a meeting at their facility and asked that he handle the arrangements.

REVIEW RULES OF ORDER:

Commissioners reviewed a revised draft of the Rowan County Rules of Procedure as submitted by John Holshouser. The changes incorporated into the ordinance were to accommodate the new Open Meetings Law as well as a provision for the use of a consent agenda. Mr. Holshouser raised a question on the use of substitute motions. At present the ordinance did not have a provision for the use of a substitute motion, but by past precedence the Board had used the motions. Commissioner Webb stated the Board had used the substitute motions in the past and a provision should be added to the ordinance. Chairman Arey stated he did not feel a substitute motion should be added because it is often used to oppose a motion on the floor. He stated it would be more appropriate for a motion to be passed or voted down before a separate motion is offered. Commissioner Blount stated he felt the Board should move ahead with the use of a consent agenda and offered a motion to adopt the procedures as submitted with

the addition of a consent agenda. Chairman Arey seconded. Commissioner Neely asked about the difference between a substitute motion and an amended motion. Chairman Arey answered that an amended motion does not change the intent of the original motion and must be accepted by the person offering the original motion. A substitute motion can be a different motion altogether. Commissioner Webb asked Commissioner Blount if he would amend his motion to include a provision for the use of substitute motion. Commissioner Blount stated he would like to address the substitute motion at a later time allowing the Board more thought on the subject. Commissioner Webb stated he could not vote for the motion without the substitute motion being included. Commissioner Blount then amended his motion to add only the consent agenda to the rules of procedure and not to approve the rest at this time. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Webb then moved to give the County Attorney direction to add a section for the use of a substitute motion. Commissioner Neely seconded and the motion passed by a vote of 3/2 with Chairman Arey and Commissioner Blount voting against. Commissioner Blount moved to adopted the revised sections as drafted by the Attorney. Chairman Arey seconded. Commissioner Webb then offered a substitute motion to table the motion until January 16, 1995 when all sections are added to the ordinance. Commissioner Neely seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Arey asked if there were any items on the consent agenda a Commissioner would like to pull for discussion Commissioner Cohen stated he would like to pull Item b- Personnel Board Recommendation, and Item D-Approve East Spencer request for the sale of property. There being no further discussion Commissioner Blount moved to approve the consent agenda with the exception of items b and d. Commission Cohen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The items approved in the consent agenda included:

- a - Minutes of the 12/5/94 Meeting
- c - The addition of Claude Avenue, Phillip Street and Park Drive (all located in the Lock Township) to the NCDOT Secondary Road system for maintenance.
- e - A watershed subdivision approval request from David B. Edwards and wife.
- f - To set a public hearing for Road Name Changes on January 16, 1995 at 7:05 p.m.
- g - Refunds totaling \$659.80
- h - The interest report for the month of December
- i - The renewal of Ambulance franchises with Rowan Rescue Squad, Hoescht-Celanese and Enochville Fire and Rescue.

ITEM B - PERSONNEL BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

Mr. Ken Deal discussed with the Board a recommendation from the Personnel Board to hire an Income Maintenance worker to coordinate transportation for Medicaid recipients. The position was mandated by the General Assembly and is a 50% reimbursed position. Commissioner Neely asked if the position was filled at present. Mr. Deal stated it was filled using federal funds but these funds had run out. Commissioner Cohen stated he felt the Board should wait until the next budget to fund a new position and reassign people until that time. Commissioner Neely asked how the position would be handled in the future. Mr. Deal stated it

would depend on the mandates from the state and federal government and if changes were made it was possible the position could be eliminated. Chairman Arey moved to approve the Personnel Board request. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed by a vote of 3/2 with Commissioners Cohen and Webb voting against.

ITEM D - REQUEST FROM EAST SPENCER:

A request for the sale of property located in East Spencer was submitted to the Board. The property had been foreclosed upon for taxes owed and East Spencer owned 61.73% of the property. Commissioner Cohen moved for approval of the sale. Commissioner Webb seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Holshouser stated the sale would be subject to the upset bid process and he would handle those details.

ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES:

Diane Scott, A.T. Harris and Gunnar Froeman addressed the Board representing the housing group from the conference on poverty. They requested the Board to establish a blue ribbon committee to study housing needs and to identify problems and solutions. They stated this committee would coordinate the efforts of various agencies in the county who deal with housing issues. Commissioner Webb moved to proceed with the organization of the committee allowing up to 25 members. He requested the Clerk to contact the agencies and municipalities requesting nominations by the first Monday in February. Commissioner Neely seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner added it was important to get the whole county involved and for the municipalities to participate.

RECOMMENDED SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE CHANGES:

Planner Marion Lytle discussed with the Board changes the Planning Board were recommending for the Subdivision Ordinance. The changes included PUD and Cluster housing, definitions of major/minor subdivisions, variance/waiver change, request for road maintenance statements on final plats. Commissioner Webb moved to set a public hearing on January 16, 1995 at 7:45 p.m. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE WATERSHED PROTECTION ORDINANCE:

Mr. Lytle discussed minor changes recommended to the Watershed Ordinance. The changes deal with the subdivision of land in watershed areas allowing for staff approval to be relayed to the Board through the consent agenda. Commissioner Webb moved to set a public hearing on January 16, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

SNIA OVERLAY:

Ed Muire requested the Board to schedule a public hearing for a proposed SNIA overlay area. The hearing scheduled previously had been canceled at the petitioners request.

Commissioner Webb moved to hold the public hearing on February 6, 1995 at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

HEALTH FACILITY COMMITTEE:

Health Director John Shaw addressed the Board with a request to form a health facility committee. The committee would study the feasibility of a combined complex with Tri County Mental Health, study alternative methods of financing and periodically report on construction progress. The composition of the committee is to be the County Manager, two Commissioners, the Health Director, and two health board members. Commissioner Blount moved to appoint the committee. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE:

Ms. Hope Davis and Mr. Bob Lippard discussed with the Board a Family Life Education report. They requested the Board to recommend that county agencies incorporate family life education into their agency's five year plans. Commissioner Blount stated he felt this was a major portion of strategic planning and moved to recommend agencies include this in their plans. Commissioner Arey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES:

Library Director Phil Barton presented the Board with a resolution outlining the legislative goals for the Library Director's Association. The association is seeking an increase in state aid for libraries through a statewide effort. Commissioner Webb moved to endorse the resolution. Commissioner Neely seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Neely asked Mr. Barton about the possibility of bringing the Spencer library under the county system. Mr. Barton stated he felt that Spencer would bring a request to the Library Board in the near future to make this request. He said that the board would receive the request and then forward the information and recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Neely added that he felt it was important to make the library accessible to all areas of the county.

PROGRESS REPORT ON EASEMENTS FOR WEST ROWAN WATER LINE:

Mr. Bill Snipes talked with the Board about the status of securing easements along Highway 70 for the West Rowan water line. He stated he had approximately seven pending and that there were three who had refused all efforts. He stated legal action would have to be undertaken in order to gain access to these properties. Commissioner Cohen moved to authorize the County Attorney to proceed with legal action in gaining access to the three properties. Commissioner Neely seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF 1995 PROPERTY TAX REVALUATION:

Tax Assessor Jerry Rowland reviewed the proposed replacement cost schedule covering improvements in the county. He gave various examples of how the new valuations would effect different types of properties in the county. Commissioner Webb moved to hold a public hearing on the proposed standards and values on January 16, 1995 at 8:15 p.m. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about who may serve on the board of equalization and review. Commissioners Cohen and Webb stated they felt the Board of Commissioner should still serve as the board of equalization and review.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Russell requested the Board to approve the purchase of two acres from Mr. James C. Shoaf. The property will be used to serve the Airport with the non directional beacon in the outer area of the approach zone. The property is located off Cauble Road and will be purchased with ILS grant money. Commissioner Blount moved to approve the purchase of the property. Commissioner Webb seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ROWAN COUNTY AIRPORT PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN 1996-2000:

Mr. Russell presented a summary of projects to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The TIP is required to be submitted annually in order to receive state and federal allocations for the projects. Commissioner Webb moved to approve the TIP plan. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Commissioner Neely asked to delay board appointments until the next meeting in order to have time to review some nominations.

Commissioner Cohen stated he would like to see the Board implement a policy to make all appointed boards uniform by allowing members to serve two consecutive three year terms. Chairman Arey moved to have all county boards have three year terms with any member being allowed to serve two consecutive terms. His motion also added that no member of the sitting Commission may serve as chairman of an appointed board. Commissioner Blount seconded. Commissioner Cohen amended the motion to add that a member may be reappointed after serving two consecutive terms after being off of the board for one year. Commissioner Blount seconded the amendment and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Arey moved to appoint Mr. Rick Travis, Social Services Director, as deputy finance officer for banking purposes. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the Town of China Grove's request to reappoint Mr. Richard Deal as an extraterritorial member of their planning board. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

* The Board was presented with a revised water agreement with the Town of Cleveland for the West Rowan water line. An agreement had been passed previously but the Town of Cleveland had made a minor change in the effective date. Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the agreement. Commissioner Blount seconded and the vote was unanimous.

* Commissioner Cohen asked for an update on the baseball stadium. He asked if the private money pledged would have to be raised before the contracts are signed. Mr. Russell answered that the Sports Authority would have to verify that money is available before the contracts are signed.

* Commissioner Blount distributed an article on Workfare as an option to mandated programs. He asked the Board to accept the article as information.

* Mr. Russell informed the Board that a pre-bid conference for the Old Post Office would be held January 10, 1995 and bids were due to be opened on January 24th.

* Finance Director Brady Frick asked the Board to adopt a resolution naming Mr. Russell, Mr. Frick and Chairman Arey as the persons authorized to handle business for the county through First Union. Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Webb seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business Commissioner Blount moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Dickinson,
Clerk to the Board