

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 4, 1995 - 9:00 A.M.
SETH MURDOCH AUDITORIUM, AGRICULTURE BUILDING

PRESENT: S. Todd Arey, Chairman
Thomas M. Webb, Vice-Chairman
Steve Blount, Member
Jim Neely, Member

ABSENT: J. Newton Cohen, Member

The County Manager, County Attorney, Finance Director and Clerk to the Board were also present. Chairman Arey called the meeting to order and Commissioner Webb provided the invocation.

As this was the first meeting in December and the election of officers is required by law, the Board voted by consensus to delay the selection of officers for the new year until it's January meeting so Commissioner Cohen could be present.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

* Commissioner Blount asked to discuss the functions of the Airport Board, to have a discussion on the Workforce Development Board, and to have a closed session for the purpose of price negotiation for a tract of land at the Rowan County Airport for sale or lease to the Standard Aero Corporation.

* Commissioner Webb stated he had received a copy of a letter from someone in Ohio complimenting the Library facilities and it's staff. He commended the staff on their hard work

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FOR STEPHEN MALLINSON:

Stephen Mallinson, from Boy Scout Troop 403, presented the Board with a check for \$1,000 to be used to buy backboards for EMS ambulances. He raised the money through a bluegrass concert as part of a project for his Eagle Scout award.

The Board thanked Mr. Mallinson and expressed their pride for the work he had done for Rowan County. The Board then presented him with a certificate of appreciation and thanked him again for his contribution.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Arey asked if any member had any questions about the items on the consent agenda. Commissioner Blount asked if item “b” (administrative office furnishings) included furniture for the grand meeting room. Mr. Russell stated that it did not as the type of chairs to be used in the room had not been decided. Commissioner Blount then moved to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Commissioner Neely seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- (a) Approval of Minutes from 11/6/95, 11/15/95, 11/20/95, and 11/22/95
- (b) Award Contract for Administrative Furnishings to Starrette’s Office Systems
- (c) Refunds Totaling \$ 405.23
- (d) Finance Interest Report
- (e) Approval of Request from NCDOT to add *Therrell Road Extension* and a portion of *Joe Summers Road* to the Secondary Road System for Maintenance.
- (f) Approval of Request to Establish \$3.00 fee for Copies of Junk Car Ordinance
- (g) Approval of Lease Agreement for Liberty Convenience Site
- (h) Approval of Road Name Change (Special Consideration) for *Corriher Heights Avenue*

PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES PLAN:

Rowan-Salisbury School Superintendent Dr. Joe McCann discussed with the Board a plan that addressed some of the needs for the school system over the next ten years. Mr. Gene Miller then gave the Board an overview of the facilities plan. The plan included one new high school, one new middle school, and one new elementary school to replace an old one. He also reviewed some of the additions and/or renovations needed at the other school facilities. The school board also included combined administrative offices and maintenance facilities in their plan for a total cost of approximately \$66,731,000.

Commissioner Neely stated he felt future jobs would become more technical and asked if this had been taken into consideration for the plan needs. Dr. McCann

stated that the plan addressed more of the brick and mortar needs, but that the Board was aware of the changing curriculum needs.

Chairman Arey asked about a statewide bond referendum. Dr. McCann replied that the State senate and house each had been working on bond figures, but had not yet reached a consensus on the amounts. Dr. McCann stated the statewide needs totaled about \$6 billion dollars.

Commissioner Blount stated the community needed a plan to make the school system a success and the plan should be in place before work is begun on a new bond package. He asked if a class of 2005 plan should be started to incorporate changes in curriculum needs in order to put the plan together and sell it to the public. Dr. McCann stated that a plan was currently being considered. Commissioner Neely agreed that they needed to look beyond the 1999 plan.

Commissioner Blount moved to accept the proposal and approve sending it to the state. Commissioner Neely seconded the motion. Commissioner Blount added that he wanted to still reserve the right to look into individual school needs at a later date

LIFESAVING MEDAL PRESENTATION:

Mr. Wayne Ashworth presented the Commissioner's Lifesaving Medal to EMS employee Veronica McCart for her efforts in saving five lives. The Board thanked Ms. McCart for her dedication to the people of Rowan County and commended her for her hard work.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION REQUEST:

Mrs. Elinor Swaim and Mr. Phil Barton addressed the Board with a request to move \$23,844 held in trust for four endowments to the Library Foundation. The endowments were given before the Foundation was established. Commissioner Webb commended the Library Foundation and Staff for their work and moved to transfer \$23,844 held in trust to the Library Foundation. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ARTHRITIS POOL THERAPY PROGRAM:

Mr. John Shaw talked with the Board about the status of the arthritis pool therapy program. Due to cuts in the Federal budget, the Health Department had begun to ask for a \$2.50/week donation for participants of the program. He stated that the program would need local dollars in order to complete the service. If the Federal government cut it's budget the County would need approximately \$6-7,000 and if it did not cut then they would only need \$2-3,000. Commissioner Webb moved to approve up to \$3,000 and subject to the Federal budget being disapproved

up to \$6,000. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Neely stated he felt this program was too beneficial to too many people to be eliminated and the County should do whatever it takes to keep it running.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE WATERSHED PROTECTION ORDINANCE:

Ed Muire reviewed with the Board changes to Rowan County's watershed ordinance. The Environmental Management Commission adopted changes to the states Watershed Protection Act and the Planning Board had in turn approved the changes to Rowan's ordinance. Commissioner Blount moved to hold a public hearing for the changes on January 8, 1996 at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Blount asked Mr. Muire about progress for developing criteria for designating SNIA overlays. Mr. Muire stated it had been delegated to the Planning Board and they were currently considering several options.

ESTABLISHING A NOISE ORDINANCE WORKSHOP:

Planning Staff distributed a staff draft copy of a changed noise ordinance. They stated they had sent a copy for review by the State planning office and were eager to have a workshop with the Board to review the changes and incorporate any other needs the Board wished to address. Chairman Arey suggested holding the workshop the afternoon of the January 8, 1996 meeting. The Board agreed by consensus. Mr. Muire noted that the noise would be directed at the chronic violators and would require the purchase of one or two noise meters and the training to operate them.

DISCUSSION ON PROPOSALS RECEIVED FOR FBO AT AIRPORT:

The Board received three proposals for FBO operations at the Airport. The proposal received were from Hess Aviation, Day Aviation, and Pethel Aviation. Mr. Russell recommended that the Board undertake a process to review and evaluate the proposals. He stated that he felt all three proposals were incomplete based on the specifications for the bid. There was discussion whether the financial statement of one of the companies should be open for public review. Mr. Holshouser stated he did not think that portion was public. Commissioner Blount suggested meeting with the persons submitting the two legitimate proposals during a workshop on the airport and ask the questions not covered by the proposal documents. There was discussion about what part of the interviews or discussion could be in open or closed session. Commissioner Blount moved to reject all offers and to hold a workshop to determine the Boards goals for the airport and to then schedule interviews with the persons submitting proposals. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Board agreed to hold the workshop for the airport in an adjourned meeting Monday, December 11, 1995 at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AIRPORT TIP:

Mr. Russell reviewed with the Board a five year transportation improvement plan for the airport. The plan is submitted to the State each year for funding consideration. Commissioner Webb moved to approve the document as presented. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion and it passed by a unanimous vote.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

* Commissioner Blount stated there seemed to be a lack of understanding on exactly what the role of the Airport Board is. He said as he understood the roles, the day to day operation beyond the FBO was to be handled by the County Manager and the Board of Commissioners would set policies. Chairman Arey stated he saw the airport board as only an advisory board. Commissioner Blount stated he wanted to make sure that their role was indeed advisory and not authority. He then asked the Board to consider items that the Board could give to the airport board for study.

* Commissioner Blount stated the Board had previously appointed a school work team to work on issues with the schools. He stated that state grants were now available and in order to apply for the funds a Workforce Development Commission must be in place. He then moved to appoint the school work team as the Workforce Development Commission to pursue the state grants. Chairman Arey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Cabarrus-Rowan Park Commission - Chairman Arey nominated Carl Sloop, Jr. to replace Larry Brown. There being no further nominations, Mr. Sloop was unanimously appointed to the Board. The Chairman asked the Clerk to send Mr. Brown a letter of thanks for his hard work on the board.

Health Board - The Board placed the names of Melvin Morgan, Dr. John Wear, and Lonnie Goodman into nomination but agreed by consensus to delay action until its January meeting in order to receive more nominations.

Parks & Recreation Commission - Commissioner Webb moved to reappoint Ms. Pat Benfield to the commission. There being no other nominations, Ms. Benfield was unanimously reappointed.

Planning Board - Commissioner Webb nominated Harold Caudill, Frank Patterson and William Yow to fill the three seats available for the planning board. There being no further nominations the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Caudill, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Yow to the planning board.

Carolina's Partnership - Chairman Arey moved to reappoint Mr. Paul Fisher as the County representative to the Board of Directors. The Board approved the reappointment unanimously.

* Commissioner Blount asked to withdraw his request for a closed session. The Board agreed by consensus.

There being no further business, Commissioner Webb moved to adjourn the meeting until December 11, 1995 at 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Dickinson,
Clerk to the Board