

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 20, 1997 - 4:00 P.M.
PLANNING CONFERENCE ROOM, 402 NORTH MAIN STREET

PRESENT: Jim Neely, Chairman
J. Newton Cohen, Vice-Chairman
Steve Blount, Member
Dave Rowland, Member
Frank Tadlock, Member

The County Manager, County Attorney, Finance Director and Clerk to the Board were also present. Chairman Neely called the meeting to order and recognized County Planner Marion Lytle. Mr. Lytle reviewed the status of Rowan County's mapping and the process for implement a GIS system. He then introduced Jay Heavner and Lou Harford from Lincoln County. Mr. Heavner and Mr. Harford gave the Board demonstrations of their GIS system in place in Lincoln County. They described the various programs that could be run on GIS system but added that a good base of cadastral maps was the key. The Board thanked Mr. Heavner and Mr. Harford for their demonstrations.

There was discussion among the Board about what aspects of the mapping the County actually needed. It was decided that the presentation had too many "bells and whistles" and no one felt Rowan County wanted to needed some of the programs.

There being no further discuss, Commissioner Cohen moved to adjourn the meeting until 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

READJOURNMENT

Chairman Neely reconvened the meeting and Commissioner Tadlock gave the invocation.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

* Commissioner Blount asked to continue the discussion on GIS that the Board had started earlier in the day.

* Commissioner Cohen asked to recognize State Representative Charlotte Gardner to talk to the Board about the status of the Tri-County Mental Center. Mrs. Gardner described the legislation that is being drafted to require the state to take over the mental health agency because services were not being provided. She stated that the State would only take the agency for a limited time and that the County Commissioners would be expected to have a plan to take the agency back over and provide services. Commissioner Rowland stated he liked the idea of contracting with private agencies to provide the services. Chairman Neely stated he would like to explore the feasibility of a Rowan/Iredell joint agency. Commissioner Cohen stated he would be willing to support a resolution to dissolve Tri-County to allow Davie County out of the agency. Commissioner Blount moved to authorize a letter to the Rowan County appointed representatives to the Tri-County Mental Health Board to ask them to support the dissolution of Tri-County. He added that a letter should also be sent to Iredell County asking them to support the withdrawal and to discuss the possibility of merging with Rowan County. Commissioner Cohen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Blount also asked the County Manager to schedule a meeting with Iredell County to begin discussions on a joint effort. The Board thanked Mrs. Gardner for sharing information with them and Chairman Neely thanked her for all of her work on mental health. Commissioner Blount suggested the County Manager also draft a letter to the state expressing the Board concerns and ideas for Tri-County to serve as a formal response to the state's plan to take over the agency.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- (A) Approval of Refunds totaling \$160.00
- (B) Request to add *Beechwood Drive* to the NCDOT Secondary Road System for Maintenance

REQUEST TO PURCHASE LAND:

Mr. Russell presented the Board with a request from W.D. Smith to purchase a small strip of land adjacent to the airport. He explained that the County had held

this land in the past to be used as an entrance to the County's airport property. He noted that a road had been built to the Nation Guard Facility that now served the county property and the strip in question was of no use to the County. Commissioner Rowland moved to consider the bid of \$4,500 for the 50' x 660' strip of land. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion carried. Mr. Holshouser stated that the bid would be held to the upset bid process and he would draft the notice to be advertised.

INFORMATION SESSION FOR DRAFT ZONING DOCUMENT:

Marion Lytle reviewed the jurisdictional issues, procedure for implementation and current status of the draft zoning ordinance document. There was debate among the board about the requirements for limiting a municipalities extraterritorial jurisdiction and whether County zoning had to be in place. Mr. Lytle stated he would check with the Institute of Government to be sure the law was not misinterpreted. He also reviewed the time frame for approving the zoning ordinance. The Board thanked Mr. Lytle for the information.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

* Commissioner Blount encouraged the other Board members to read the GIS document that was included in the information packet. He also distributed a chart for the duration of the 911 surcharge that was passed by the Board in 1995.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Mike Sherman - discussed his concerns over the pending annexation by the City of Salisbury. He read a resolution passed by the Davidson Board of Commissioners taking a stand against forced annexation and urged the Board to consider passing the same.

* Commissioner Blount moved to enter closed session for the purpose of economic development. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion carried.

Upon conclusion of closed session, Commissioner Cohen moved to return to open session. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried. No action was taken in closed session.

John Holshouser read a resolution stating the relocation agreement including incentives for the Dillard's Distribution plant. Commissioner Blount moved to adopt the resolution and advertise for a public hearing on the agreement. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

There being no further business, Commissioner Rowland moved to adjourn until January 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Dickinson,
Clerk to the Board