

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 17, 1997 - 7:00 P.M.
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING ROOM, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

PRESENT: James B. 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 Commissioner Tadlock provided the invocation.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- John Holshouser told the Board that the period for upset bids for property to be purchased by W.D. Smith had passed. He added that he had a prepared deed in order to finalize the transaction.
- Mr. Russell discussed with the Board a resolution requesting the expansion of the bridge located on Julian road from three lanes to five. He then brought the Board up to date on a meeting he and Chairman Neely had attended with Mayor Kluttz. Commissioner Rowland questioned the resolution's statement that the County would help compensate the state for overtime work to redesign the bridge. Commissioner Cohen stated that if the County didn't work with the state to have the bridge redesigned now it would be years before the state would do it again. He also noted the cost to replace the bridge completely in several years. Commissioner Rowland stated he felt the Board should also be planning now to push the state for a new interchange on Beatty's Ford Road. Commissioner Blount noted that that was a priority in the County's TIP that had been submitted for the past two years.

Commissioner Blount moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Rowland asked to discuss item "A". Commissioner Blount moved to approve consent agenda items B-E as submitted. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried. The approved consent agenda included the following:

- (B) Refunds totaling \$341.00
- (C) Proclamation Establishing February as Human Relations Month in Rowan County
- (D) Establish a Public Hearing for March 10, 1997 at 9:15 a.m. for a Majority Petition to Name *Talley Lane*
- (E) Request to Sell Surplus Radios to Granite Quarry Fire Department

ITEM "A"- APPROVAL OF LANDIFLL CHARGE-OFFS AND NEW CREDIT FORM:

Commissioner Rowland questioned the new credit policy and asked why the County would wait sixty days before suspending landfill credit when an account is past due. Mr. Frick explained that the intent of the policy was sixty days from the date of billing and not from the past due date. The Board asked that the policy be clarified on this point. Commissioner Blount moved approve the new credit policy with the modification and the charge-offs. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING: ROAD NAME CHANGES OF *ABRAHA LANE* AND *NOBLE ACRES DRIVE*:

Commissioner Blount moved to open the public hearing on the proposed road name changes of Abraha Lane and Noble Acres Drive. Commissioner Tadlock seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Neely called for comment and none being offered, Commissioner Blount moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Blount then moved to approve the road name changes. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Commissioner Blount moved to open the public hearing for the application for a new automobile salvage yard for Randy Beach. Commissioner Rowland

seconded and the motion carried. Commissioner Neely asked if anyone wished to speak and the following citizens addressed the Board:

- Rick Morgan - presented the Board with a petition of homeowners opposing the salvage yard.
- John Underwood - stated the business would increase traffic on their private road and questioned Mr. Beach's integrity.
- Natalie ? - stated they needed protection so that their home values would not decrease
- Randy Beach - stated he had been paying his part for maintenance on the road and just wanted to start an honest business.
- Frances Morgan - stated she has had problems with Mr. Beach in the past concerning the roadway maintenance and was opposed to the salvage yard.

There being no further comments, Commissioner Blount moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion carried. Marion Lytle and John Bost reviewed the procedures to date and stated that Mr. Beach was in compliance with the ordinance. The Board discussed requiring a road maintenance agreement as part of the approval process. Mr. Holshouser stated he would like the opportunity to review the application to determine the legality of the road maintenance agreement. Chairman Neely asked the Board to delay any action until Mr. Holshouser had a chance to review the application. Commissioner Blount suggested Mr. Lytle meet with the homeowners and Mr. Beach to try to reach an agreement and to return to the Board on March 17.

PUBLIC HEARING: SNIA PERMIT APPLICATION:

Commissioner Blount moved to open the public hearing for comments on an SNIA permit application from Robert Hamke. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried. Chairman Neely called for comment and there being none offered, Commissioner Blount moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Tadlock seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Blount then moved to approve the application. Commissioner Cohen seconded the motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF SPONSORSHIP FOR SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE SPRING SPORTS FESTIVAL:

Mr. Russell reviewed a request from the Convention & Visitors Bureau that requested the County to help sponsor a spring sports festival for the South Atlantic league. Mr. Russell stated that the Board had been a sponsor for the past two years. Commissioner Blount stated the felt this was a worthwhile program for all of Rowan County and moved to approve the \$5,000 sponsorship. Chairman Neely seconded the motion. Commissioner Cohen stated he could not support the request

until he saw the budget for the sports festival and what exactly the county money would be used for. Commissioner Blount then withdrew his motion subject to a presentation from Judy Newman and budget review by Commissioner Cohen. Commissioner Tadlock told the Board that he had a meeting scheduled with Judy Newman and would share the Board's request with her.

RECOMMENDATION FOR AIRPORT CONSULTANT ENGINEERING SERVICES:

Mr. Russell stated that he and Commissioners Blount and Rowland had interviewed three firms who had submitted proposals for engineering work at the airport. He told the Board that Talbert & Bright was the best choice to meet the needs at the Rowan County Airport and asked the Board to approve a three year contract with the firm for services. Commissioner Tadlock moved to accept the recommendation to work with Talbert & Bright. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF OFFER TO SELL BUILDINGS LOCATED ON PROPERTY TO BE PURCHASED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

The Board received a letter from the Rowan/Salisbury Board of Education informing the Board that they were purchasing approximately 36 acres of land on Choate Road. The land contained an old house and several small frame buildings. The board had received an offer from a local individual to purchase and move the buildings for \$1,200, but wanted to first offer the buildings to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Rowland moved to decline the buildings and to support the school board's decision to sell. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO PROVIDE COMPENSATION FOR KANNAPOLIS CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

A resolution was presented to the Board from the Kannapolis City Board of Education supporting the allocation budgeted funds to provide compensation for their school board members. Commissioner Rowland asked what the Rowan/Salisbury School Board members were currently paid. Commissioner Cohen stated that Rowan/Salisbury School Board members were paid \$100 per month. Commissioner Rowland stated that although he agreed the school board members deserved compensation he could not support setting a salary higher than that of the Rowan/Salisbury School Board members. Commissioner Blount suggested that now was the time to increase Rowan/Salisbury's salary. He then moved to approve the resolution. After some discussion Commissioner Blount amended his motion to approve the resolution subject to Rowan/Salisbury increasing their pay to the same level. Members of the Board again stated they could not support setting a salary for

Kannapolis that would be higher than Rowan County. Commissioner Blount then withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Rowland moved to decline support of the resolution from the Kannapolis City School Board. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion passed 4/1, with Commissioner Blount voting against.

Commissioner Cohen then moved to permit the Kannapolis School Board to set their own salary plan from funds provided annually by the County in current expense. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed by a vote of 3/2, with Commissioners Rowland and Tadlock voting against.

APPOINTMENT FOR THE CABARRUS-SOUTH ROWAN URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TAC/TCC BOARDS:

Commissioner Blount stated that he had been the Board's appointment during the past year but due to scheduling conflicts had been unable to attend meetings regularly. The Board agreed by consensus to appoint Commissioner Rowland to the TAC/TCC boards.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was offered.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Blount moved to enter closed session for the discussion of purchase of property in an economic development matter. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried. Upon discussion in closed session, Mr. Holshouser determined that the Board could not discuss the site without disclosing the location in open session. Commissioner Blount then moved to return to open session. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

The Board stated they were interested in looking into the Brendle's building as one of several options to try to meet the health department needs. The agreed to allow Mr. Russell to work with the building representatives to determine feasibility.

Mr. Russell asked the Board for their permission to contract with Sal Corrente on a six month basis to work as a coordinator in conjunction with Mr. Russell for events at the stadium. The Board agreed by consensus.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Blount moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Dickinson, CMC