

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 3, 1997 - 9:00 A.M.
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING ROOM, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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

The County Manager and Clerk to the Board were also present. Chairman Neely called the meeting to order and Commissioner Blount gave the invocation.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Mr. Russell asked the Board to recognize Sheriff Bob Martin for a short presentation. Chairman Neely asked Sheriff Martin to come forward. Sheriff Martin then introduced Frank Kiker and stated that he was retiring from the Sheriff's Office since beginning duty on September 15, 1976. He and Chairman Neely then presented Mr. Kiker with his service revolver. The Board thanked Mr. Kiker for his service to the County.
- Commissioner Blount presented the Board with a plaque that was awarded to the Board by the Salisbury Community Appearance Council for the renovation of the Administration Building.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Tadlock moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion carried.

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- (A) Approval of Minutes from 10/6/97, 10/7/97, 10/13/97, 10/14/97 and 10/20/97 Meetings
- (B) Approval of Refunds totaling \$1,525.97
- (C) Set Public Hearing for SNIA Permit Application for November 17, 1997 at 7:15 p.m.

PRESENTATION RE: GRANT FOR CHILD ADVOCATE IN DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:

District Attorney Bill Kenerly spoke to the Board regarding their interest in seeking federal grant funds to be used for a child advocate position in his office. He told the Board that the position would be used to implement the Community Protocol and well as work with cases involving children. Mr. Kenerly told the Board that the grant would require a 25% match from the County, but that the 25% included in-kind money.

Commissioner Rowland stated his only concern was that the position would be put into effect and then when the grant ran out the County would be expected to continue funding. He added that he felt the position was necessary.

Commissioner Blount agreed that the position was necessary and moved to authorize Mr. Kenerly to proceed with the grant application. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

REQUEST FOR STEEL BRIDGE INSTALLATION:

Parks Director Jim Foltz addressed the Board with bids for the installation of a steel bridge at Dan Nicholas Park. Mr. Foltz told the Board that the Hurley family had donated \$100,000 for the installation of the bridge.

Mr. Foltz asked the Board to approve an informal bid of \$98,500 from Keith Yount Construction for the installation of the bridge. Commissioner Cohen stated he was concerned about the legality of accepting the information bids. Commissioner Blount asked Mr. Foltz if the project could be formally bid. Mr. Foltz replied that the project could be formally bid but that they were trying to move on a fast schedule and he couldn't guarantee the bids would come in as low as the one he had.

Commissioner Tadlock asked Mr. Foltz if the \$98,500 bid included everything for a complete job. Mr. Foltz stated that it was and that he would guarantee the job would be complete under the \$100,000 donation.

Commissioner Tadlock moved to approve the bid by Keith Yount Construction not to exceed the \$100,000 donation. He added that the finished

project must have an inspection certificate by an engineer. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 4/1 with Commissioner Cohen voting against.

Commissioner Cohen stated that he was very appreciative for the donation by the Hurley family and all that they had done for the County but added he had concerns over the legality of the bid.

RESOLUTION FOR BIKE PLAN:

Ed Muire told the Board that the NCDOT had allocated \$30,000 to Rowan County in a TIP for the initiation of a countywide bicycle plan. He noted that the plan would be to determine a route through Rowan County and then to produce maps showing the routes, as well as the purchase of signs for the roads.

Commissioner Rowland stated he felt the plan was a waste of money. He asked if designating the bicycle route would place restriction on the land owners like the scenic byway had done. Mr. Muire stated he was not aware of any restrictions that would be place.

Commissioner Blount moved to approve the resolution authorizing the bicycle plan. Chairman Neely seconded and the motion passed by a vote of 3/2 with Commissioners Rowland and Cohen voting against.

FINAL REVIEW OF ZONING ORDINANCE:

Marion Lytle reviewed with the Board issues that were brought up at the four workshops that were held on the zoning ordinance. He stated that people who were opposed to the ordinance were opposed in principal to the ordinance and that people who were in support were generally ones that had been affected by certain situations.

He gave the Board several sections that had been rewritten, including the signage section to include banners and flags.

Commissioner Blount asked about the letters that were mailed to property owners on Highway 70 to determine their feeling on being zoned industrial. Mr. Lytle said that they had only received one letter back asking not to be zoned industrial.

Commissioner Rowland that he would like to see the issue be placed on the ballot as nonbinding in order to let the people vote whether they wanted zoning or not. Commissioner Blount responded by saying tough decisions such as the zoning issue were why the Board had been elected. He added that he zoning document was

very complex and he did not believe most citizens had the time to truly work with the ordinance to understand it.

Commissioner Rowland stated he would like planning staff to put together a proposal to show areas that had no growth and would never have water and sewer that could be taken out of the zoning ordinance and left alone. He then moved to ask staff to prepare such a report. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion was defeated by a vote 2/3 with Commissioners Neely, Blount and Tadlock voting against.

Commissioner Blount moved to hold a public hearing for comments on the zoning ordinance on November 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the South Rowan High School Auditorium. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried on unanimous vote.

The Board then discussed groundrules for the public hearing. They agreed that speakers should be limited to three minutes and comments should be limited to the zoning issue. They also agreed to have a sign up period for people who wanted to speak for an hour before the hearing started through an hour after the hearing started.

REQUEST FROM CHINA GROVE FOR THE TRANSFER OF SIA WATERSHED ACREAGE:

A request was received from China Grove requesting a transfer of 171.52 acres of SIA watershed property from the County to the Town. The change was due to the extension of the China Grove extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the request. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF WELFARE REFORM PLAN COMMITTEE:

Rick Travis addressed the Board concerning the Welfare Reform Planning Committee. He stated that the state required a planning committee to be in place whether a county chose to be a Standard or Electing county. He gave the Board a list of agencies and suggested that the board chair, CEO or their designee from each organization.

Commissioner Blount moved to appoint the board chair, CEO or designee from the Board of Commissioners, Boards of Health, mental Health, DSS, Salisbury/Rowan Schools, Chamber of Commerce, Employment Security Commission, United Way, Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council, RCCC, Rowan Finance Officer and the Task Force for Child Abuse Prevention. Commissioner Tadlock seconded the motion and it passed on unanimous vote.

The Board agreed by consensus that Commissioner Blount would serve as both the Board and Task Force representative.

RESOLUTION REGARDING YADKIN SHORELINE MANAGMENT PLAN:

Mr. Russell stated that the Board had agreed on issues affecting the Shoreline Management Plan at its last meeting, but apparently several members had changed their mind.

Commissioner Blount stated he felt the most intrusive regulation was the 100' buffer with no landscaping in order to obtain a pier permit.

Commissioner Rowland stated he would like to support numbers 3,4 & 5 of the Montgomery County requests. These included

3. Trees less than 6" in diameter can be cleared from the buffer that Yadkin owns, as well as in the 100' set back
4. Existing piers are grandfathered as is.
5. Pier rights should go with the property when sold.

Commissioner Blount stated he could support those three items with a change to the language of number 3 to allow undergrowth to be cleared as long as it was replaced with mulch or shrubbery. Commissioner Rowland asked to add grass to the list. Commissioner Blount agreed.

Commissioner Blount moved to support items 3,4, & 5 with the language in 3 to be changed as stated. He also added that any liability due to the enforcement of the regulations be accepted by Alcoa.

Commissioner Rowland stated that he was opposed to the 100' set back. Commissioner Blount then withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Rowland moved to endorse items 3, 4 & 5 with the language in item 3 to be changed to oppose any setback, but that if one must be used then the undergrowth could be cut and replaced with mulch, grass or shrubbery. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SALE OF T-HANGARS AT THE AIRPORT:

Mr. Russell told the Board that the county was within 2-3 weeks of final inspection of the T-Hangars being constructed at the airport. He asked for Board approval authorizing the sale of the hangars and land leases with those who have put deposits on a hangar.

Commissioner Blount stated he felt the purchase agreement should be like a condominium and the county should not accept full responsibility for major repairs, such as the roof, but the cost should be spread among all owners.

Commissioner Blount then moved to approve the sale and land lease agreements for the T-Hangars. Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Commissioner Blount moved appoint the following board members:

Diane Hundley - Salisbury/Rowan Human Relations Council

Willie Shaver - Agricultural Advisory Board

Gloria Correll - Agricultural Advisory Board

Tom Brewer - CBA Task Force

Timothy Truemper - CBA Task Force

Cochitha Ray-Leazer - Nursing Home Advisory Committee

Michele Hill - Nursing Home Advisory Committee

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Blount asked the Board to request board applications from those persons being recommend for appointment to the Parks & Recreation Board next month.

There being no further business, Commissioner Blount moved to adjourn the meeting until November 6, 1997 at 5:00 p.m. at the Schools Administration Office on Ellis Street. Commissioner Cohen seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Dickinson, CMC
Clerk to the Board