

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
ROWAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 4, 1998 – 9:00 A.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, Finance Director, County Attorney, and Clerk to the Board were also present. Chairman Neely called the meeting to order and Commissioner Cohen provided the invocation.

PROPOSAL OF HOUSE ARREST PROGRAM:

Sheriff Bob Martin and Judge Anna Mills Wagoner addressed the Board concerning an electronic house arrest program. The Sheriff told the Board this plan had been developed to address the overcrowding problem in the detention center.

He stated that they currently had 160 in the detention center but usually averaged 180. He said the capacity was supposed to be 154 and if the house arrest program was implemented it would reduce the number to 120-140 which would be a more manageable number.

Sheriff Martin told the Board that program should be able to be self sufficient since the cost of the electronic equipment was \$1.75 per day when activated and was rented through Raleigh. He noted that the inmates who qualified for the program would in turn pay \$5 per day. He stated that he would need two officers to monitor the program and asked the Board's permission to proceed with implementation.

Commissioner Rowland asked the Sheriff about the type of people eligible for this program. Judge Wagoner assured the Board that only non-violent people who met certain criteria would be considered.

Commissioner Blount moved to authorize Sheriff Martin and Judge Wagoner to proceed with the program. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- (A) Approval of Minutes from 4/6/98 and 4/20/98 Meetings
- (B) Approval of Refunds totaling \$ 2,011.32
- (C) Request to Declare Property as Surplus in Order to Sell Equipment No Longer Needed

HOME & COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT FUNDING PLAN:

Senior Services Director Clyde Fahnestock presented the Board with a funding plan for the Home & Community Care Block Grant. He noted that the plan had been approved by the HCCBG Advisory Committee and constituted the main funding stream for the Senior Services Department. He said that Rowan County was eligible for \$611,835 in HCCBG funds which required a 10% County match.

He reviewed the plans as approved by the Advisory Committee and noted that they had decided to maintain the same programs as in the previous year.

Commissioner Blount moved to approve the application for grant funds. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

CONVENIENCE CENTER CHANGES:

Environmental Services Director Don Conner presented the Board with a proposal for changes in convenience site operations.

He proposed moving the Yadkin Site to the Recycling Center on Longs Ferry Road, closing the Providence Site, eliminating an Accounting Technician position and increase the per pound rate from 6 cents to 8. He added that the rate hasn't been increase since 1991.

Commissioner Cohen moved to accept the recommendations. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Conner stated that the changes would become effective July 1, 1998 in order to give citizens notice of the changes.

REQUEST FOR CONTRACT TIME EXTENSION ON LANDFILL CELL CONSTRUCTION:

Don Conner addressed the Board with a request for an extension on the contract for the construction of the new landfill cell. He stated that the Morgan Corporation had requested 132 day extension and after reviewing time logs with S & ME(the engineering firm) 100 days could be justified.

Mr. Conner stated that the two main reasons for the delay were the county's search for suitable clay to be used for the liner and the fact that the job was about 14% larger than what was originally anticipated. He noted that the delays had not caused any additional cost to the county or created any hardships.

Commissioner Blount asked if the contractor was willing to accept 100 days. Mr. Conner answered that the contractor had agreed to their decision.

Commissioner Cohen moved to extend the contract time by 100 days. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion carried.

SUBMITTAL FOR REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR VICTORY LANE RV CAMPGROUND:

Planners Marion Lytle submitted an application for a conditional use permit to the Board. The application was from Greg Felton for a RV campground in the RA zoning district. He requested the Board to set a public hearing for comments on the application for Victory Lane Campground.

Commissioner Blount moved to hold the public hearing on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Lytle then reviewed the procedural guidelines for hearing a conditional-use permit request, and discussed the criteria necessary to approve the permit.

INFORMATION ON STANDARDS FOR SKIRTING OF RENTAL MANUFACTURED HOMES ON INDIVIDUAL LOTS:

Mr. Lytle stated that staff had been conducting research on a possible zoning text amendment. The change would allow rental manufactured homes on individual lots to meet only the vinyl skirting requirements.

He stated that staff was checking with the Institute of Government to determine the legality of this issue, stating that it appeared to be illegal to have one set of requirements for rental homes and another for individually owned.

Commissioner Blount asked staff to find out if the change was legal before going any further. The Board agreed to readdress the issue once a legal ruling was given.

#### REQUEST TO CANCEL SECOND MONTHLY MEETING:

Commissioner Blount moved to cancel the second meeting for May to accommodate the public forums for school funding. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

#### BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Centralina Development Corporation – Commissioner Blount moved to re-appoint William Lombard, William Kennedy and Tony Cornnachione. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion carried.

Salisbury-Rowan Human Relations Council- Commissioner Blount moved to appoint David Katzin, Harold F. Thomas and Mark Dalton. Commissioner Cohen seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Cohen stated that the Rowan County still had one appointment left for the Piedmont Behavioral HealthCare Board and asked members to try to submit names for the appointment at the next meeting.

#### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Representative Charlotte Gardner talked with the Board about the upcoming short session in the state legislature. She discussed the \$1 billion surplus in the state budget as well as support for sales tax referendum. She stated she would support such legislation as long as it was put to a vote of the people. Members asked Representative Gardner about gaining support for S594 and efforts that could be made in passing that bill. She suggested the Board write the Finance Committee Senior Chairman Lyons Gray from Forsyth County.

The Board also asked Representative Gardner about road maintenance and the possibility of increased funding to maintain the roads.

The Board thanked Mrs. Gardner for taking time to discuss issues with them and thanked her for attending.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Mr. Russell gave the Board the final draft of the proposed outline for the efficiency study with the Board of Education. He asked the Board to review the draft and if they had any additional ideas or problems about the process to please let Commissioners Rowland, Cohen or himself know.
- Mr. Russell gave the Board a letter from the ABC office stating they had approved hiring an enforcement officer and would be shifting the proceed funds to pay for the position. Mr. Russell stated that they would hold their distribution check until the cost was determined and the funds could be reallocated. Commissioner Cohen suggested writing the ABC Board a letter offering one of the Sheriff's surplus vehicles for the enforcement officer to use.
- Commissioner Rowland asked the Board to approve both him and Commissioner Cohen to serve as liaisons to the ABC Board in order to receive notices of meetings. Commissioner Blount moved to appoint Commissioners Rowland and Cohen as liaisons to the ABC Board. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

There being no further business, Commissioner Blount moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Dickinson, CMC  
Clerk to the Board