

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 5, 1998 – 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, Clerk to the Board, County Attorney and Finance Director were also present. Chairman Neely called the meeting to order and Commissioner Tadlock provided the invocation.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Mr. Russell asked the Board to hold a short closed session on the sale of property, concerning the Norman's Building.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Tadlock moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Blount seconded and the motion carried. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- (A) Approval of Minutes from September 8th & 21st Meetings
- (B) Proclamation Establishing October 23, 1998 as NAACP Day in Rowan County
- (C) Resolution Establishing October 18-24, 1998 as Hunger Fighting Week
- (D) Approval of Refunds totaling \$2,034,82
- (E) Resolution Terminating Rowan/Cabarrus Park Commission

(F) Budget Amendments

RIDE RTS PROGRAM:

Mr. Clyde Fahnestock addressed the Board on behalf of the Rowan Area Transit Authority. He asked the Board for endorsement of a project called Ride RTS, which would use a lift equipped vehicle to transport non-emergency/medical calls in order to reduce inappropriate use of county ambulances. He stated that the majority of the users would be nursing homes, when clients had to be transported to or from a doctor's appointment.

Mr. Fahnestock stated that the expected cost of the program was \$30 per trip and that they were eligible to apply for \$28,000 in Rural General Public transportation funds, which would reduce the cost to eligible citizens to \$15.

Chairman Neely stated he was concerned about who would determine if a call to 911 was an actual medical emergency or not and the liability it could create. EMS Director Wayne Ashworth stated that if a 911 caller requested an ambulance one would be dispatched and then the EMT's/paramedics could make an on-site determination of the need.

Commissioner Tadlock moved to approve the project as submitted. Commissioner Blount seconded the motion. Commissioner Cohen asked Commissioner Tadlock to accept an amendment to his motion to ask RTS to provide a six month evaluation of the success of the program to the Board. Commissioner Tadlock accepted the amendment and Commissioner Blount seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

CONSIDERATION OF INCOME ELIGIBILITY WORKERS AT MEDICAL CENTERS:

Sandra Wilkes, DSS Interim Director, presented the Board with expanded information on the possibility of placing an Income Eligibility Worker at Rowan Regional Medical Center as well as the V.A. Hospital.

Commissioner Rowland asked why this item was on the agenda since it had been voted down only a few meetings before.

Chairman Neely and Commissioner Tadlock stated that the department had been able to better substantiate what work the employee would perform.

Ms. Wilkes then reviewed the job descriptions and the agreements with the medical facilities. She stated that the federal government would pay for 50% of the position and the medical facilities would pay the other 50%.

Commissioner Tadlock moved to approve the two positions based on the presentation and the substantiation of work for the employees. Chairman Neely seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 4/1 with Commissioner Rowland voting against.

CONSIDERATION OF SNIA REQUESTS:

Ed Muire presented the Board with a request for approval of two SNIA permit applications. The applications were received from:

A.N. Crozier
704 Performance Road
Mooresville, NC 28115

Dave Jenson
160 Wilkinson Road
Mooresville, NC 28115

Commissioner Blount moved to approve the two applications as submitted. Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

REPORT ON ROWAN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PLAN:

Marion Lytle gave the Board a proposal for providing information to the Board on the preparation of a transportation plan for Rowan County. He stated he would like to have public input and involve the elected leaders of Cleveland and Rockwell in the process. He stated that the preparation of a transportation plan could lead to projects being included on a transportation improvement plan.

Commissioner Blount stated he felt it was important for the public to provide input early in the process and moved to allow staff to proceed with their proposed schedule. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REZONING REQUESTS:

Mr. Lytle discussed several planning board recommendations for proposed rezoning hearings.

The first case involved Anna Mabell Bentley and the request submitted earlier for rezoning to allow a quarry to operate. Mr. Lytle gave the Board a letter from attorney Glenn Ketner, client representative, asking that the application be withdrawn since the Board had denied a text amendment change which had been integral in their operation. The Board agreed by consensus to withdraw the application.

The second request was from Geraldine Beck which staff found to be adjacent to Padgett's Mobile Home Park. The Park had been classified as a subdivision instead of mobile home park and the Board had initiated a rezoning since the property was overlooked when zoning became effective. The planning board recommended the Beck property be rezoned at the same time since it met the same standards and was the same as the Padgett property. Commissioner Blount moved to approve the rezoning schedule. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

The last request was from Everette Bernard who requested a rezoning to allow a business to store, sell and dismantle mobile homes. The planning board recommended that a public hearing not be set and the application not considered because the business would be a detriment to the surrounding community. Commissioner Blount moved to accept the recommendation to deny the rezoning request. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

EXOTIC ANIMAL ORDINANCE:

Mr. Lytle told the Board that in order for Animal Control employees to enforce an exotic animal ordinance, it would have to be approved by the Board of Health. He reviewed the procedures the Health Board would take in considering the ordinance and how it would be enacted.

Commissioner Blount suggested sending the draft ordinance as created to perhaps expedite the process and eliminate the need for task force review.

Commissioner Rowland stated he would give the Board of Health the request at their next meeting and asked staff to send each member a copy of the draft so they could review beforehand.

Commissioner Blount then moved to refer the draft ordinance to the Health Board. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

ADDRESSING AND CADASTRAL MAPPING FOR GIS:

Don Conner, Jerry Rowland and Frank Thomason addressed the Board with bid results for the cadastral mapping phase of the GIS implementation. They reviewed the needs to complete the GIS project.

Chairman Neely expressed concerns over the projection that the ending amount of the telephone surcharge would be .35 cents instead of .25. Mr. Conner explained that the figure was only a projection and if he preferred to use .25 cents they could change the table.

Commissioner Blount moved to allow staff to enter a contract with ASI Landmark to continue the project. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

DEED TRANSFER APPROVAL TO SELL HEALTH BUILDING TO ROWAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL WORKSHOP:

Mr. Russell gave the Board an agreement for the Rowan County Vocational Workshop to purchase 7.09 acres of property at the County Health Department for \$475,962. The agreement stated the Workshop would close on the property upon sale of their old facility or the receipt of federal funds whichever comes first, but no later than June 30, 2000. The Workshop agreed to lease the Health building to the County for \$1.00/month until the Health Department relocated to their new building.

Commissioner Blount moved to approve the contract. Commissioner Rowland seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Holshouser noted that the sale would have to be advertised and should be placed on the Board's next agenda for final approval.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH C&M TAX CONSULTANTS:

Leslie Earnhardt, Finance Director, asked the Board to approve a contract with C&M Tax Consultants to review the reporting procedures for sales tax from non-profit agencies in the County. She stated that County would only pay 33 1/3 of whatever increased amount C&M was able to find.

Mr. Russell reviewed the procedures the consultants would use to try to find reporting errors in the non-profit agencies. Commissioner Rowland stated he still did not understand their purpose and did not support it.

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the contract. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion passed by a vote of 4/1 with Commissioner Rowland voting against.

RESOLUTION FOR FINANCING APPLICATION FOR HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT:

Ms. Earnhardt presented the Board with a resolution required by the Local Government Commission as the first step for seeking their approval for a financing package for the Health/Mental Health project.

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

There being no further business, Commissioner Blount moved to enter closed session to discuss the sale of property noting that the property in question was the Norman's property. Commissioner Tadlock seconded and the motion carried.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Dickinson, CMC
Clerk to the Board