

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 19, 2002 – 7:00 PM
J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

Present: Steve Blount, Chairman
Gus Andrews, Vice-Chairman
Arnold Chamberlain, Member
Frank Tadlock, Member
Leda Belk, Member

The County Manager, the Clerk to the Board, the County Attorney and the Finance Director were also present.

Chairman Blount convened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Commissioner Chamberlain provided the Invocation and Commissioner Tadlock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Blount referenced a letter from Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare (PBHC) thanking the Board for Rowan County's support in remaining with the PBHC group.

Chairman Blount verified that all Board members had a copy of the letter he sent to the residents of High Rock Lake.

ADDITIONS:

- Commissioner Belk requested to add discussion on the teacher's supply money.
- Commissioner Chamberlain called for a discussion on EMS, concerning comments from the August 5, 2002 Board meeting.
- County Manager Tim Russell requested to add a discussion on a letter received from the school system asking for approval for the expenditure of funds to start the Isenberg project.

- Mr. Russell also requested to update the Board on a proposal from SBA Tower.
- Chairman Blount added discussion concerning ABC legislation and distributed a handout pertaining to the legislation.
- Chairman Blount also called for discussion concerning a Resolution for 911 Remembrance.
- Chairman Blount added discussion inviting the Rowan County American Legion Team to a Board meeting in order to honor the team for their efforts.

COMMISSIONERS LIAISON REPORTS:

Commissioner Andrews expressed the concerns of the Health Board and Leonard Wood, Health Department Director, pertaining to the state budget cuts.

Commissioner Chamberlain mentioned that he and Commissioner Belk had attended a Steering Committee meeting with the Fire & Rescue Association and things appear to be going well.

Chairman Blount stated he had attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Nick's Playground at Dan Nicholas Park and commended the impressive job that had been done in creating the playground.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Rita Foil, Clerk to the Board, responded to a query from Chairman Blount concerning the progress on the security system at the courthouse. Ms. Foil told the Board that staff had recently contacted the U. S. Attorney's Office and was informed that the second installment would not be received until the end of September. The first installment was received from the Sheriff's Department, in the amount of approximately \$49,000, and was posted on July 24, 2002. The County will not proceed with any plans until all monies have been received.

Commissioner Tadlock made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrews and passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Budget Amendments
- B. Approval of the amended agreement and resolution for the Iredell/Rowan/Cabarrus Consortium

REQUEST FROM DSS DIRECTOR FOR WORK FIRST COUNTY BLOCK GRANT PLAN: APPOINTING OF COMMITTEE AND DESIGNATION OF ROWAN COUNTY AS STANDARD OR ELECTING:

Sandra Wilkes explained the Work First Grant Plan and that the plan must be updated every two (2) years. Ms. Wilkes stated that Legislation requires the Board to appoint a committee of local leaders to assist in the development of the County's plan. Ms. Wilkes highlighted the list of required representatives and asked the Board for those appointments.

In response to a query from Chairman Blount, Ms. Wilkes said there is no deadline for appointing the committee, but said the plan must be submitted by November 1, 2002.

Chairman Blount asked the Clerk to contact and request that the Chair, or the designee, for each of the following serve on the committee: Board of County Commissioners, County Boards of Health, Mental Health, and DSS, and the Rowan-Salisbury School System. Chairman Blount requested the Clerk to contact Ken Parr of the Chamber of Commerce, or his designee, to represent the Business Community.

Ms. Wilkes named the Community Service Council, Vocational Rehabilitation, Salvation Army and Rowan Helping Ministries as the community-based organizations representative of the population to be served.

Ms. Wilkes stated the Board must designate Rowan County as either an electing or standard county and continued by explaining the criteria for the designation.

Ms. Wilkes responded to queries from Commissioner Chamberlain that there are very few electing counties and stated she was in favor of Rowan being a standard county.

Commissioner Belk made a motion that Rowan remain a standard county followed by a second from Commissioner Andrews. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON UNANIMOUS PETITIONS: JACKSON FARM LANE, TUPELO CIRCLE, PRESTON LANE, KRISTY LANE, SARAH ELLEN LANE, LARSON DRIVE, LAURA KATE AVENUE, MATTHEW DRIVE, DOYLE LANE, MCKINLEY LANE & MAGGIE AVENUE:

Fredda Greer presented the background concerning the proposed road name of Jackson Farm Lane. Ms. Greer stated the staff realized the road needed to be named when a manufactured home dealer came to the planning office for a zoning permit. Ms. Greer stated that the dealer had obtained the necessary signatures on the road-naming petition and recommended approval.

Chairman Blount confirmed with Ms. Greer, the suggested road name to be Jackson Farm Lane.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing at 7:12 pm to entertain public comment.

1. Junior Goodman, of 6651 Stokes Ferry Road addressed the Board inquiring why his mother did not have any “say so” in the situation. Mr. Goodman stated his mother was not a property owner “at the driveway” but uses the driveway and that her address would change, as well as his address.

Ms. Greer clarified for Chairman Blount that the road is not in a mobile home park. Ms. Greer referred to the map indicating parcels 68 and 126 only had a right of way.

Mr. Goodman emphasized that if his mother’s address was going to change, she should have a say in naming the road.

Chairman Blount asked if the other property owners had a right-of-way or actually owned the road. Ms. Greer responded that the road is mostly owned by the Bellamy’s, who own parcels 55 and 51, with the road touching parcel 143, which is owned by the Shepherd’s.

Mr. Goodman again questioned why his mother had “no say so.”

Chairman Blount replied this is a public hearing that does give her the opportunity to have a “say so.”

2. Ms. Goodman expressed that if her address was being changed, she felt she should have a say.

Chairman Blount asked Ms. Goodman what road name she preferred.

Ms. Goodman said she would like the road to be named Scooter Drive. Ms. Goodman continued by saying there were already “a bunch of Jackson’s in the city and the county.”

Commissioner Andrews asked if the road dead-ends at 143 and also questioned if addresses were being changed on the easements.

Chairman Blount confirmed that Commissioner Andrews’ point to be that Ms. Goodman did not own property on the road.

Commissioner Chamberlain questioned if the County ordinance says you “must be a property owner.” Ms. Greer responded yes.

3. Elizabeth Smith, who was not a property owner or involved with the naming of the road, suggested that the drive to the Goodman’s property be named Scooter Drive.

Chairman Blount replied that the County does not name driveways.

With no further comments from citizens, Chairman Blount closed the public hearing at 7:20 pm.

Commissioner Chamberlain verified with Ms. Greer, that once a third residence is located on the drive to the Goodman's property, the drive would be required to be named.

Ms. Greer responded to Commissioner Andrews, that the Bellamy's had selected the proposed road name.

Commissioner Chamberlain made a motion to name the road Jackson Farm Lane. Commissioner Belk seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Greer explained that zoning regulations require internal roads in mobile home parks to be named. Ms. Greer continued by saying the property owners of the mobile home parks submitted the petitions for the proposed road names. Ms. Greer stated that Tupelo Circle was located in Barger Mobile Home Park, with the remaining roads of Preston Lane, Kristy Lane, Sarah Ellen Lane, Larson Drive, Laura Kate Avenue, Matthew Drive, Doyle Lane, McKinley Lane & Maggie Avenue being located in Matika Villa Mobile Home Park. Ms. Greer stated that staff supports the proposed names.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing to entertain citizen comments concerning the proposed road names.

With no citizens wishing to address the Board, Chairman Blount closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Andrews made a motion to accept the proposed road names as submitted. Commissioner Tadlock seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

CONTINUATION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR DRY ROAD/BUDDIES LANE:

Ms. Greer reviewed the history of the July 1, 2002 public hearing, concerning the road name petition for Drye Lane. Ms. Greer stated that Terry Brewer had submitted the petition after staff recognized the road as needing to be named. The petition was submitted with only two (2) of the seven (7) required signatures. Mr. Brewer also informed staff of an ongoing dispute among residents concerning the right-of-way that Mr. Brewer was trying to name. Ms. Greer stated that Ms. Taylor spoke against the proposed road name at the public hearing on July 1st due to her concerns that the name could create confusion emergency response. Ms. Taylor proposed to name the road Crazy Lane, however, she has since submitted a petition for Buddies Lane. Ms. Taylor was able to acquire only two (2) of the seven (7) required signatures. Ms. Greer noted that Ms. Taylor's petition showed the signature of Anthony Finney, along with a newspaper notice naming Mr. Finney as executor of the estate of Jerry Parker. County Attorney John Holshouser advised that the executor notice did not give Mr. Finney rights to sign the petition unless he is an heir to the property. Ms. Greer stated that according to

the Rowan County Tax Assessor's records on July 29, the property was still in ownership of Jerry & Barbara Parker.

Ms. Greer stated that staff had received a call today against the name of Buddies Lane. Ms. Greer continued by saying due to problems with the naming of Drye Road and Buddies Lane, staff suggests Poplar Post Road as an alternate name if no agreement can be reached.

Chairman Blount verified that each petition received had the signatures of two property owners.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing at 7:28 pm.

1. Buddy Hathcock, of 8385 Old Beatty Ford Road, objected to the name of Buddies Lane, stating "that road is nothing but a stigma and an embarrassment to the community." Mr. Hathcock said he did not want his name associated in any way with the road and declared that the petitioner intentionally and deliberately continued to waste taxpayers money and the Board's time with the petition. Mr. Hathcock reported that he owned more of the right-of-way than any other property owner and emphasized that he did not want his name attached to the road.
2. Rebecca Taylor, 8535 Old Beatty Ford Road, said the road goes across her property and that she would accept the name of Poplar Post *Road*, change from Poplar Post *Lane*.

With no further citizens wishing to address the Board, Chairman Blount closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Belk made a motion to accept the name of Poplar Post Lane. Chairman Blount asked Ms. Taylor if *Lane* was acceptable, to which she replied yes. Commissioner Chamberlain seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE ROWAN COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE NON-PROFITS:

Marion Lytle, County Planner, explained that after meeting with the members of the West Rowan Bow Hunters Association, the Planning Board voted 8-1, to present the attached text. Mr. Lytle highlighted the separate Standards for Archery Ranges, Social Fraternities and Non Profit Athletic Fields. Mr. Lytle stated a primary concern for at least one (1) of the Planning Board members and for the West Rowan Bow Hunters Association was the requirement for the 501 (C) 3 status. Mr. Lytle stated he had spoken with several different groups and felt the Board of Commissioners would quickly see applications on these issues.

In response to a query from Commissioner Chamberlain, Mr. Lytle clarified the applications would be for expansions of the West Rowan Archery Range and West Rowan Little League ball fields.

Chairman Blount verified with Mr. Lytle that the 501 (C) 3 text had been deleted from the language of the proposed text. Chairman Blount asked Mr. Lytle if he were comfortable in judging the groups as legitimate nonprofits without the 501(C) 3 requirement. Mr. Lytle responded that he was “pretty comfortable” making the determination and felt the county had “a little protection” with the conditional use standards.

Mr. Lytle responded to Commissioner Chamberlain that the uses are now permitted in the CBI District.

Commissioner Chamberlain felt there was no a need to impose the 501 (C) 3 restrictions.

Commissioner Belk wanted the Board to have “safeguards” in place, to prevent unwanted activities from encroaching on others.

Mr. Lytle stated that he had spent time with Planners and Zoning Administrators from other counties, whose approach is to have a non-specific conditional use permit.

Commissioner Tadlock stated had received several calls concerning a paintball competition in the Corriher-Grange area. Mr. Lytle replied that the group had been issued a Notice of Violation.

Commissioner Andrews expressed concern and had reservations that the Board would be setting a precedent in determining what is nonprofit.

Mr. Lytle responded to the concerns of Commissioner Andrews by saying the SIC Codes definitions were specific and the conditional use permits would be issued on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Lytle described the applications as being very detailed.

Chairman Blount pointed out that the Board could refuse to issue permits if it were concerned over sound, noise, dust, traffic, etc.

Commissioner Chamberlain stated the Board could put conditions on the applications that protect other citizens.

Chairman Blount asked Mr. Lytle if the text could declare that the nonprofit exception would not be allowed for motorized racing. Mr. Lytle responded yes.

Commissioner Andrews again emphasized his concern over the Board approving text for nonprofit groups. Commissioner Andrews felt the Board was “vague on what constitutes nonprofits.”

Mr. Lytle stated the Board could require the 501(C) 3 on an individual basis.

Commissioner Chamberlain pointed out that the conditional use permit is an “individual conditional use.”

Commissioner Tadlock asked the Board to consider not including “motorized vehicles” as proposed text. Chairman Blount & Commissioner Belk agreed.

Commissioner Andrews described a scenario, assuming a nonprofit organization receives approval from the Board, but is later determined to be for profit. Mr. Lytle responded that the organization would be found in violation and the same process (public hearing) would revoke the conditional use permit.

Commissioner Belk inquired how much time was involved to actually “stop the activity.” Mr. Lytle said the process would take 4-6 weeks.

Mr. Lytle stated if the organization were found in violation, a citation would be issued the same day but it would take several weeks to stop the operation.

Attorney Holshouser stated that depending on the seriousness of the violation, the courts could issue a restraining order.

Mr. Lytle emphasized that all conditions need to be listed on the form to be legally binding.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing to entertain citizen comment.

1. Tommy Kimball of Union Church Road expressed appreciation for the productive meetings held by the Planning Board concerning archery ranges. Mr. Kimball discussed his years of involvement with archery ranges and stated there had never been any accidents involving supervised ranges. Mr. Kimball touched on the insurance coverage the archery range carries. Mr. Kimball thanked Commissioner Chamberlain for his interest in attending a recent archery tournament and thanked all Board members for receiving input from the archery club. Mr. Kimball stated the group is 501 (C) 3 and that funds raised from the recent tournament will be used for citizens in the community suffering from cancer and other illnesses. Mr. Kimball assured the Board that the group has no intent of putting a go-cart track on the property. Mr. Kimball thanked the Board, saying he looked forward to coming back with the group’s request for zoning.

With no further citizen input, Chairman Blount closed the public hearing at.

Chairman Blount requested to add to the text, that motor-operated racing would not be allowed.

Commissioner Andrews explained that the Board realizes the archery range is a well-run operation and the Board's intent is to have zoning in place protect all parties. Commissioner Andrews verified that the text detailed the distance the shooting stations must be from the property lines.

Commissioner Chamberlain made a motion to grant the zoning text amendments for nonprofits with the wording added by Chairman Blount that motor operated racing will not be allowed. Commissioner Tadlock seconded the motion.

Chairman Blount clarified for Commissioner Andrews that motor operated racing will not be allowed under the text presented.

Commissioner Tadlock expressed concern with the word "racing" in the text and suggested replacing the word racing with "activities."

The Board agreed to the modification and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEWER USE ORDINANCE:

Don Conner, Director of Environmental Services, stated the ordinance is almost a "mirror image" of the City of Salisbury's sewer use ordinance to prepare for when the city takes over the county's wastewater system.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing. With no citizens wishing to address the Board, Chairman Blount closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Chamberlain made a motion to approve the Sewer Use Ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tadlock and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$30,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS OF ROWAN COUNTY:

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing to entertain citizen input. With no citizens wishing to address the Board, Chairman Blount closed the public hearing.

In response to a query from Commissioner Belk, Leslie Heidrick, Finance Director, stated the County would save approximately \$700,000-\$800,000 by refunding the bonds.

Commissioner Belk made a motion to adopt the bond order as presented. Commissioner Chamberlain seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$76,900,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF ROWAN COUNTY AND APPROVAL TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING:

Commissioner Chamberlain made a motion to set a public hearing on Tuesday, September 3, 2002 for the proposed school bond. Commissioner Tadlock seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Landmark Commission

Chairman Blount stated the Board had received ten (10) applications for the Landmark Commission and mentioned the Landmark Commission would actually adopt the Rules of Procedure.

Commissioner Chamberlain referred to the Rules of Procedure, Article III, Item C, and pointed out the quorum would have to be changed to six (6) due to the Landmark Commission being an eleven (11) member board. Commissioner Chamberlain stated Item E would also need to be changed to six (6). Commissioner Chamberlain referred to the last sentence in Item F and suggested the wording be changed to “unless excused by the majority of the Board present.”

Commissioner Tadlock suggested saying that a quorum shall consist of a “majority” rather than using the number “6.”

Commissioner Chamberlain referred to Article IV concerning Removal of Members. Commissioner Chamberlain requested the wording should read “The Chairman shall notify the Chairman of the Rowan County Commission and copy each Commissioner of any commission member who is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings unless such absence is excused by the Commission for good and sufficient cause.

Commissioner Chamberlain expressed concern with Article VI, referencing the Clerk to keep the minutes of the Commission. Commissioner Chamberlain suggested the Commission might have to pay someone part-time. Chairman Blount responded that the matter should be left to the discretion of the County Manager

Mr. Holshouser referred to Removal of Members and questioned if the rules were actually grounds for removal or a warning. Chairman Blount responded that for County boards, it means grounds for removal. Chairman Blount agreed with Mr. Holshouser that the language should be added, to the Rules of Procedure, to clarify that absence from three (3) consecutive meetings is grounds for removal.

Commissioner Chamberlain and Belk requested to delay appointments until the next Board meeting.

Commissioner Chamberlain pointed out the applicants were located in the County from the following areas: North – 1, South –3, East – 5 and West – 1.

Commissioner Chamberlain questioned if the applicants could serve on the Landmark Commission if they were presently serving on a historic board.

Chairman Blount responded that the individual couldn't serve the County if they are currently serving the City.

The Board agreed to delay the appointments to the next meeting.

Commissioner Tadlock asked that the Board establish a deadline of noon, prior to the next Board meeting, for receiving applications.

West Rowan Firemen's Local Relief Fund Board of Trustees

Mr. Russell distributed a request from the West Rowan VFD to appoint Mark Brawley and Cindy Knott to the West Rowan Firemen's Local Relief Fund Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Chamberlain made a motion to appoint Mark Brawley and Cindy Knott as requested. The motion carried unanimously.

Locke Volunteer Fire Department Commissioner

Commissioner Tadlock made a motion to appoint David Miller as the Locke Volunteer Fire Department Commissioner. The motion passed unanimously.

Housing Authority

The Board delayed any decision for appointments to the Housing Authority Board.

ADDITIONS:

School Supply Money

Chairman Blount distributed a letter received from the Rowan-Salisbury Schools requesting the Board wait until budgets are finalized before appropriating the \$375,000 as teachers supply money.

Commissioner Belk stated that she had made a pledge that the money should be used for teachers and asked if staff could facilitate the distribution of the funds if the school system would not.

Commissioner Chamberlain referred to the second paragraph of the letter, stating the \$375,000 was not part of the school's budget, but part of the County's budget – a gift to the teachers of the school system. Commissioner Chamberlain said he resented the fact that the school system is cutting the teachers pay and also trying to tell the County how to spend the \$375,000.

Commissioner Belk made a motion to appropriate \$375,000 to teachers supply money and asked that staff find a way to make that happen. Commissioner Chamberlain seconded the motion.

Chairman Blount stated that the School Board had the option to distribute the money to the teachers, but that if the School Board refused, the County Manager and staff had the authority to get the money to the teachers.

Commissioner Belk wanted to ensure that every teacher with a classroom receives funds for supplies.

Commissioner Tadlock emphasized that the School Board not sending the required Resolution was the delay for release of the funds to the teachers.

The motion passed unanimously.

ABC Board

Chairman Blount distributed copies of proposed legislation that would impact ABC Boards in a manner that would require funds currently used on local enforcement to go to the State.

Commissioner Tadlock discussed the proposed legislation and the affects on local Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE).

Chairman Blount asked for the Board's permission to have the Manager contact the House and Senate Conferees. Chairman Blount pointed out the legislation would cost the County approximately \$94,000.

Commissioner Tadlock made a motion asking the Manager to contact the House and Senate Conferees to support the budget. Commissioner Belk seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Later during the meeting, Commissioner Andrews asked if the ABC Board had the funds (\$94,000) to support both the local and state ALE. Commissioner Tadlock responded that the local Board could not afford to support both. Commissioner Tadlock stated that if the State were paid the \$94,000, the local coverage would be in jeopardy.

Resolution Declaring September 11th (9/11) as Patriot Day

Chairman Blount stated he had received a copy of the President's Resolution declaring September 11th as Patriot Day. Chairman Blount asked for the Board's support of the Resolution as well as permission to have the Clerk change the wording, making the Resolution applicable to Rowan County.

Commissioner Tadlock made a motion to support the Resolution and to request that the Clerk complete the Resolution as applicable to Rowan County. Commissioner Chamberlain seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blount informed the Board that the Mayor had invited the Board to attend a brief ceremony on the morning of 9/11 at the Firemen's Memorial.

2002 Rowan County American Legion Team

The Board agreed to honor the Rowan County American Legion Team at the next Board's meeting in September.

Discussion on EMS

Commissioner Chamberlain said he had received calls concerning an article that had been published in the newspaper. Commissioner Chamberlain continued by reading a portion of the minutes from the Board meeting on August 5, 2002, pertaining to the discussion on EMS response. Commissioner Chamberlain clarified that the ambulance and First Responders are dispatched at the same time. Mr. Russell responded that the dispatcher determines the level of the emergency. Commissioner Belk added that in most cases the First Responder unit arrives at the scene before the ambulance.

Commissioner Belk asked if an ambulance is dispatched and the individual is not transported, is the individual billed. Mr. Russell replied that only if a service is provided, the individual is billed.

Correspondence from Rowan-Salisbury Schools for Approval of Expenditures for Isenberg Elementary:

Mr. Russell distributed copies of a letter he had received from Gene Miller with Rowan-Salisbury Schools asking for approval of expenditures for the Isenberg Elementary project, a project that is listed in the proposed bond package. Mr. Russell explained that the school system was asking the County to appropriate funds to employ an architect. Mr. Russell stated the project was designed to take twelve (12) months to construct. Mr. Russell was of the opinion that delaying the requested approval until after the referendum, would not delay the opening of the school.

The Board agreed to delay a response to the letter until after the vote for the bond referendum.

SBA Towers

Mr. Russell reported that the County had been able to negotiate with SBA Towers on a site at Dan Nicholas Park and had also been able to arrive at the same compensation as the Dan Street tower site. Mr. Russell explained that SBA Towers would pay a \$500.00 nonrefundable option, in order to proceed with the permitting process. Mr. Russell stated that if approved, the payments would be \$750.00/month for the first five (5) years and an escalation rate of 15% every five (5) years thereafter. Mr. Russell informed the Board that the tower would be a multi-station tower.

In response to queries from Commissioner Andrews, Mr. Russell explained the five (5) year option was for twenty (20) years and the location of the tower was "back into the woods."

Commissioner Tadlock inquired about the height of the tower. Mr. Russell responded that the County's ordinance limits the height to 150', but that SBA Towers would like the Board to grant 170' to provide more coverage.

Don Conner stated the tower was limited to 150' in the RA District without Board approval.

Commissioner Tadlock made a motion to approve the \$500 option for SBA Towers to proceed with the process. Commissioner Chamberlain seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Rowan-Salisbury Schools Option for Purchase of Property

Commissioner Chamberlain expressed concern that the school system had purchased an option on sixty-eight (68) acres of property, not only during recession times but while a bond is being proposed to the public. Commissioner Chamberlain emphasized that the price of the property was high.

Commissioner Belk added that the property had not yet been appraised.

Commissioner Chamberlain conveyed that it "bothered" him that he wasn't contacted concerning the option on the property for a new high school, especially while the Board is trying to promote the bond package and the needs of the children. Commissioner Chamberlain said if the bond package fails, he personally would not vote for the County to purchase the property at such an "atrocious" price and at such "atrocious" timing.

Commissioner Belk agreed that timing is important and that all Boards in the County should work "together."

Workshop/Public Hearing at Enochville School

In response to a query from Commissioner Tadlock, Chairman Blount mentioned that the information concerning the public hearing scheduled for August 20th, was inserted in the agenda packets. Chairman Blount stated the workshop with staff would begin at 4:00 pm, ending at 6:00 pm. The public hearing would begin at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Blount adjourned the meeting at 11:35 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita K. Foil
Clerk to the Board