

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 17, 2003 – 7:00 PM  
J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

Present: Steve Blount, Chairman  
Gus Andrews, Vice-Chairman  
Leda Belk, Member  
Chad Mitchell, Member  
Frank Tadlock, Member

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

Chairman Blount convened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Chairman Blount welcomed Boy Scout Troop #320 from the Woodleaf Civitans and Scout Leaders Dale Gray and Sharon Miller

Commissioner Tadlock provided the Invocation and Boy Scout Troop 320 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADDITIONS**

- Chairman Blount added a discussion concerning the agreement between the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education in reference to the bond project and the construction management firm.
- Mr. Russell requested an Executive Session to discuss the purchase of property.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

Commissioner Andrews acknowledged the accomplishments of the West Rowan High School boys' basketball team for their winning season and their second consecutive state championship title.

Commissioner Andrews also praised former West Rowan High School basketball player, Scooter Sherrill, for his outstanding basketball performance with NC State University.

## **CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- A. Approval to set a public hearing for CUP-9-03, a family subdivision
- B. Approval of the CJPP Grant
- C. Approval to set a public hearing for passage of the 2003 Solid Waste Management Plan
- D. Approval of the application for the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant for 2003
- E. Approval of a request of Rowan Public Library Book Sale
- F. Approval to set a public hearing for the ROAP application
- G. Approval of a Proclamation declaring "Team Impact Week"
- H. Budget Amendments



## **RESOLUTION HONORING ROWAN 250 FEST**

Chairman Blount introduced a resolution honoring Rowan County's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration, known as **ROWAN 250 FEST**.

Chairman Blount asked that the Board be notified when the resolution comes before the State Legislature.

Commissioner Tadlock made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Andrews seconded and the motion passed unanimously

## **PRESENTATION ON "CLEAN CITIES"**

Commissioner Belk stated that a presentation was made the previous month at the COG meeting concerning Clean Cities. Commissioner Belk expressed her surprise to learn that Rowan County had more days of air quality of non-attainment than any of the nine (9) counties in the region. Ms. Belk introduced Bob Kosak, of York Technical College to explain the Clean Cities Program.

Mr. Kosak used a power point presentation to explain the program. Mr. Kosak stated that Clean Cities is a voluntary federal program designed to accelerate and expand the use of alternative fuel vehicles in communities throughout the country and to provide refueling and maintenance facilities for their operation.

Mr. Kosak discussed the Clean Cities Goals, stakeholders and the benefits of participating in the program. Mr. Kosak requested that Rowan County become a stakeholder and help the region attain clean air.

Commissioner Andrews mentioned that in the past, several ethanol plants had tried to locate in North Carolina. Commissioner Andrews said an ethanol plant had recently attempted to locate in Union County and “it just keeps getting beat down.” Mr. Kosak responded that it’s the “chicken and the Egg” concept and that there will be more ethanol plants in the future.

Chairman Blount thanked Mr. Kosak and said the Board would take the presentation into consideration.

**PRESENTATION ON THE SALISBURY-STATESVILLE EMERGENCY WATER INTERCONNECTION**

Matt Bernhardt, Assistant City Manager for Utilities for Salisbury, reviewed the memo in the Board’s agenda packet. Mr. Bernhardt said the City was asking for a three-way agreement between Rowan County, City of Salisbury and the City of Statesville.

Using a power point presentation, Mr. Bernhardt discussed the Salisbury-Statesville Emergency Interconnection. The presentation reviewed water line breaks for both Salisbury and Statesville, as well highlighted the effects of the drought on Statesville.

Mr. Bernhardt mentioned that the water interconnection was also receiving support from the Governor’s Office, the staff of DEHNR and the NC Drought Council.

Mr. Bernhardt reviewed the responsibilities in the agreement for the City of Salisbury and the City of Statesville.

Mr. Bernhardt stated that Salisbury City Council and Statesville City Council had both approved the agreement. Mr. Bernhardt discussed the funding of the project and reported that the State of North Carolina would provide \$ 800,000 for the water interconnection, which would be split between Statesville and Salisbury. Mr. Bernhardt said the cost to the City of Salisbury for Phase I would be approximately \$800,000. Mr. Bernhardt referred to a previous report to the Board, in which he indicated there would not be any cost to Salisbury or Rowan County for the project. Mr. Bernhardt said the State was unable to cover the full cost of the project and that Salisbury was forced to provide the additional \$400,000 to “keep the agreement alive.” Mr. Bernhardt reported Statesville was committing approximately \$1.1 million in funding and would be receiving two (2) grants for the project, totaling approximately \$700,000.

Mr. Bernhardt said the project was specifically for emergency use only.

Commissioner Andrews asked if the term “emergency water” meant for Rowan County or just for Statesville. Mr. Bernhardt responded that the emergency was for “both ways.”

Commissioner Andrews questioned if a drought was considered to be an emergency. Mr. Bernhardt explained that the agreement provided either unit of government the option to terminate the flow, if the circumstances created an emergency to either unit.

In response to a query from Chairman Blount, Mr. Bernhardt confirmed the \$400,000 commitment by Salisbury would come from water customers and “would not negatively impact the rate.”

Mr. Bernhardt stated that he had met with Mayor Brown of Cleveland to discuss Cleveland’s potential ownership. Mr. Bernhardt said a three-way agreement with Rowan County, Cleveland and Salisbury would address Cleveland’s concerns. Mr. Bernhardt continued by saying a formal transfer by the County to Cleveland would be necessary upon completion of Cleveland’s debt service. Mr. Bernhardt said the partnership agreement between Salisbury and Rowan County calls for the eventual transfer of the remainder of the system to the Salisbury Rowan Utilities Department. Mr. Bernhardt said there is a timetable for the water supply interconnection.

Mr. Bernhardt responded to questions from Commissioner Andrews, saying that the 16” pipe easily handles 2 million gallons per day and could handle “a much larger volume.” Mr. Bernhardt said the line is 16” from the Freightliner plant to Statesville and the section of line from Parks Road to the booster pump station is 24”.

Commissioner Belk thanked the City for its endeavor to provide such a valuable resource to the citizens.

Commissioner Tadlock commended the outstanding team effort to provide the water supply interconnection.

Commissioner Andrews made a motion to adopt the memorandum of agreement as presented. Commissioner Belk seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION ON ADDING DAVIDSON COUNTY TO THE PIEDMONT AREA MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AUTHORITY AND OTHER ADDITIONAL CHANGES**

Pam Shipman, Chief Operating Officer of Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare, discussed the proposed joint resolution. Ms. Shipman referred to system reform legislation enacted by the General Assembly in 2001 which requires that counties and area programs have a minimum population of 200,000. Ms. Shipman explained that Davidson County was requesting to be included in the Piedmont Area Program, which would become effective in January of 2004, bringing the total piedmont population to 630,000.

Mr. Russell responded to a query from the Board that staff would endorse this resolution.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented followed by a second from Commissioner Tadlock. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PRESENTATION FROM EMS ON THE STANDARD RESPONSE TIME**

Chairman Blount stated that as a result of the Board's planning retreat, EMS Director Wayne Ashworth would present the Board with standard response times.

Mr. Ashworth said the last EMS station was built in East Rowan on St. Matthews Church Road in 1994 and is the station with the least call volume in the county. Mr. Ashworth reported that the new southwest station on NC 152 had been advertised for construction bids, which are due March 31, 2003. Mr. Ashworth expressed hope that the building would be occupied by mid-October. Mr. Ashworth said response times would be dramatically improved in the south and southwest portions of the county.

Mr. Ashworth explained that the "prime need" is for a downtown Salisbury station and that the area has not had an ambulance based there for four (4) years. Mr. Ashworth said the Salisbury "core" area accounts for half of the emergency calls. Mr. Ashworth mentioned the difficulty of locating suitable and affordable property in the downtown area. Mr. Ashworth said one parcel is currently being considered as a suitable station site.

Mr. Ashworth asked the Board to note that the county uses a tiered-response.

Mr. Ashworth stated that a new proposed EMS plan would be forthcoming and turned the meeting over to Beth Connell to discuss standard response times.

Ms. Connell referenced a color-coded map of Rowan County, depicting the EMS stations and the percentage of calls received at each of these locations. Ms. Connell reported that standard response times are eight (8) minutes for urban areas and twelve (12) minutes for the county. Ms. Connell used the map to illustrate response times and the need for an adequate number of ambulances and crews in proper locations.

Mr. Ashworth explained the goals of EMS and the need to upgrade the "prime time unit" to a paramedic unit to answer all calls in the Salisbury district during the daytime.

Commissioner Belk pointed out that the County is "not meeting the goals" regarding response times to various portions of the county.

Chairman Blount stated that the issue would be discussed during budget sessions.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR THE ROAD  
NAMES OF EVA LANE AND WALLACE LANE**

Fredda Greer of the Planning Department explained that Eva Lane and Wallace Lane were “one and the same” and had been identified by ASI as a road needing to be named.

Ms. Greer reminded the Board that property owners had submitted a petition for a public hearing on October 22, 2002, with two (2) of three (3) required signatures. Ms. Greer said the children of property owner, Jerry Wallace, had requested that their father, who was undergoing medical treatment, be allowed to have input into naming the road. The Board had agreed to wait on approving the road name in order to allow Mr. Wallace to have input.

Mr. Greer said that later, Mr. Wallace indicated that he owned the road and submitted a petition requesting that the road be named Wallace Lane.

Ms. Greer said she had noticed Mr. Wallace has access to his property via this easement but it does cross property of others. The deed notes the rights of ingress, egress and regress across properties of the other petitioners. Ms. Greer said the property owners that requested Eva Lane had the majority of signatures for naming the road.

Ms. Greer informed the Board that the property was posted and notices had been mailed to property owners. Ms. Greer said staff heard from one (1) of the property owners that had requested the road be named Eva Lane.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing at 8:30 pm to entertain citizen comment concerning the naming of the road located east off the 900 block of Mt. Hope Church Road.

1. Nancy Misenheimer, 605 Rainbow Drive in Kannapolis, explained that her grandmother had owned the property in the early 1900's and had divided the land between her three (3) children, one of those children being Ms. Misenheimer's mother. Ms. Misenheimer said that approximately eight (8) years ago, a right-of-way was given to J.C. Blankenship, owner of the property. Mr. Blankenship sold the property to Mr. Wallace. Ms. Misenheimer said the Wallace property was completely landlocked without the right of way. Ms. Misenheimer said her mother is now deceased and because the property had been in the family for approximately one hundred (100) years, they wished to name the property after her mother.
2. Virgil Misenheimer said the right of way goes through the property he lives on. Mr. Misenheimer continued by saying Nancy Misenheimer is his mother and they feel very strongly that the road should be named after his grandmother.

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

Commissioner Andrews made a motion to name the road Eva Lane as proposed. Commissioners Tadlock, Mitchell and Belk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR CUP-07-03 FOR PLACEMENT OF A MODULAR HOME**

Chairman Blount explained that the hearing was quasi-judicial and would focus on the application for a Conditional Use Permit (Exhibit A) for Tax Parcel 477-064, a 7.02-acre tract located at 165 Grace Church Road, for the creation of a new parcel in the CBI District.

The Clerk swore in those wishing to provide testimony.

Lloyd Pace, Ordinance Enforcement Officer for Rowan County, presented the Staff Report (Exhibit B) for the case. Mr. Pace said the permit is for a family subdivision, basically for mortgage purposes for the placement of a modular home on the corner lot.

Mr. Pace referred to the Evaluation Criteria listed in the Staff Report (Exhibit B) and said the criteria does not apply to the CBI District.

Mr. Pace said staff recommends approval of the request.

Chairman Blount inquired about the size of the tract being divided. Mr. Pace responded that the original tract is 7.02 acres and the proposed site is approximately one (1)-acre.

Chairman Blount referenced the map (Exhibit C) and noted that the site appears to be a prime location for commercial development. Mr. Pace said there are already two (2) mobile homes on the property. Mr. Pace added that there are also homes all the way down Grace Church Road until reaching the industrial park, which is located on the right-hand side of the road.

In response to a query from Commissioner Belk, Mr. Pace said the mobile homes would remain.

Commissioner Belk stated that she was hesitant to allow mobile homes in a commercial district.

Chairman Blount expressed concern with locating a mobile home in a prime commercial area.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing at 8:40 pm to entertain citizen input. With no citizens wishing to address the Board, Chairman Blount closed the public hearing at 8:40 pm.

Commissioner Belk said she was reluctant to allow the placement of a modular home on the parcel.

Commissioner Mitchell expressed his personal opinion was not to deny the property owner the right to place a home on his property.

Commissioner Andrews said the duty of the Board was to ensure that the property would not be detrimental to the area and that it “probably wouldn’t hurt to take one (1) acre out.”

Chairman Blount said he would agree if the parcel were not the corner lot, which is the most valuable for commercial development.

Chairman Blount asked staff if the request for a conditional use permit was for the subdivision or for allowing residential use. Mr. Pace responded that the permit was for the subdivision of property.

Commissioner Andrews mentioned that the applicant had the opportunity to request a different zoning classification when zoning was implemented.

Commissioner Tadlock pointed out that many property owners were unaware of the option to request a different zoning classification.

Chairman Blount asked Ed Muire, Assistant County Planner, for his input regarding the issue.

Mr. Muire encouraged the Board to table the issue to the next meeting. Mr. Muire explained that if the Board were to deny the request, the applicant would have to wait one (1) year before he could apply again.

By consensus the Board agreed to table the issue to the next meeting for further input from staff.

Chairman Blount called for a short break at 8:45 pm.

Chairman Blount reconvened the meeting at 8:50 pm.

### **PUBLIC HEARING FOR REZONING OF EASTERN I-85 CORRIDOR**

Mr. Lytle presented the Staff Report concerning the I-85 rezoning. Mr. Lytle reviewed the 85-ED Districts and the 85-ED Zoning Recommendations.

Mr. Lytle referenced a map to indicate three (3) sites in which staff had received proposed changes from the advertised rezoning. The changes were listed as follows:

- Carter & Coughenour Company, located at 2075 Peeler Road, requested that the existing CBI zoning be maintained at the site.

- Tabernacle Baptist Church, requested to keep its CBI zoning.
- Staff also recommended that the Tony Ly (parcel 401-100) property and the Carl House (parcel 401-056) property remain zoned CBI.

Mr. Lytle referred to a handout, which reflected comments concerning properties discussed at the hearing. Mr. Lytle stated that approximately 13-14 properties were discussed and that approximately 25-30 people attended the hearing. Using a power point presentation, Mr. Lytle reviewed the properties of which the owners had expressed concern with the proposed rezoning.

Chairman Blount stated “in all likelihood we will not try to make a decision on this tonight” but would ask staff to come back with a final revised map.

Chairman Blount opened the public hearing at 9:05 pm to receive citizen input concerning the proposed rezoning.

1. Henry Everhart of 1215 Peeler Road stated he lived on a corner lot by Peeler Road and Lane Park Road. Mr. Everhart requested that his property be zoned CBI and said he wished to sell the property.

Chairman Blount verified that Mr. Lytle was keeping track of the citizens’ requests.

Mr. Everhart said he has commercial property in front of his property, a truck stop to the left, a “marine place” behind the property and Lane Punch to right.

2. John Melton, Pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church located on Weaver Road, addressed the Board. Pastor Melton said, “Everything is zoned in the CBI District.” Pastor Melton continued by saying with possible future expansion it would be in the best interest of the ministry to remain in zoned CBI.
3. Barbara Myrick stated that she owns property on Peeler Road, which is zoned RA. Ms. Myrick inquired if she would have to have the property rezoned in order to place storage units on the property.

Chairman Blount responded that Ms. Myrick would have to be rezoned to CBI for the storage units.

Ms. Myrick asked if all of the property would have to be rezoned and Chairman Blount replied “not necessarily.” Chairman Blount stated that staff would assist Ms. Myrick with an application for rezoning.

Ms. Myrick said she also owned 6 ½ acres of property off of Old Concord Road. Ms. Myrick asked why the property had been split into 3 parcels without any notification. Chairman Blount referred Ms. Myrick to the tax office for the answer.

In response to a query from Ms. Myrick, Chairman Blount explained the appeal procedure pertaining to the revaluations.

4. Kenneth Keller, 1803 Webb Road, explained that his property was zoned CBI when the original zoning was implemented and that he had built a 2600-square foot building for his sign manufacturing business. Mr. Keller asked to remain CBI due to the trucks that deliver to his business.
5. Vickie Prince said she was speaking on behalf of Frances Leazer who owns property on Peach Orchard Road. Ms. Prince asked if property could be subdivided between heirs if the property were zoned ED-2. Chairman Blount responded yes. Ms. Prince said the property is currently being used as farmland.

Chairman Blount asked if the property was listed as farm use with the tax office.

Ms. Prince replied that she had encouraged her family to list the property as farm use but that her father had become ill and the listing had never been changed.

Chairman Blount closed the public hearing at 9:15 pm.

Commissioner Mitchell said he would like to see all of the issues that had been raised incorporated into the final proposal from staff.

### **REPORT ON TEACHER SUPPLY ALLOCATION OF FUNDS**

Leslie Heidrick, Finance Director, reported on the “near final numbers” for the purchase of classroom supplies. Ms. Heidrick stated that 1,319 teachers (88%) had submitted receipts for reimbursement. Ms. Heidrick informed the Board that funds had been disbursed through the end of February for approximately \$306,000.

Ms. Heidrick stated that the teachers had been extremely appreciative and that letters of correspondence had been included in the Commissioners packets.

Commissioner Andrews asked if it had been a “cumbersome” task for the Finance Department to reimburse the teachers. Ms. Heidrick responded that the process had gone “fairly smoothly” and that three (3) staff members had worked on the project.

In response to a query from Commissioner Tadlock, Ms. Heidrick stated that in the past, the County had issued a check to the school system for \$375,000 to be allocated to the teachers. Ms. Heidrick explained that if all of the teachers did not submit receipts for reimbursement, the school system was allowed to use the remaining funds.

Commissioner Belk applauded the fact that \$305,000 went directly to the classrooms.

**DISCUSSION OF CLOSING COUNTY OFFICES EARLY FOR THE ROWAN 250 FEST “CHEERWINE PARADE OF THE CENTURY”**

Mr. Russell explained that the parade would begin on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at 2:00 pm. Mr. Russell proposed a four-hour work day in order to allow staff the opportunity to attend the parade.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to accept the request as discussed. Commissioner Tadlock seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION OF LEASE NEGOTIATIONS FOR FIELDCREST CANNON STADIUM**

Mr. Russell stated that in 2000, the franchise for the ownership of the baseball team had been transferred to Carolina Baseball, Inc. Mr. Russell said that the County and the City of Kannapolis had been approached for a second time by the new ownership regarding possible re-negotiations for the lease. Mr. Russell explained that the poor economy and low attendance were factors for the request. Mr. Russell said the new ownership would like to utilize funds for marketing the team in an effort to increase attendance.

Mr. Russell requested that the Board give staff the authority to meet with the team’s ownership as well as the City of Kannapolis, in an attempt to reach a short-term agreement, of no more than three (3) years. Mr. Russell said a full accounting of the generated proceeds would be expected in an effort to determine the success of the marketing effort. Mr. Russell said at the end of the three (3) year period, the original lease would resume unless the Board directed further negotiations. Mr. Russell informed the Board that the lease is in its ninth year of a 15-year lease.

By consensus, the Board agreed to allow the Chairman and County Manager to negotiate the issue and bring a contract back to the Board for approval.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

**Salisbury-Rowan Community Service Council, Inc.**

Commissioner Tadlock nominated Milton Taylor to serve on the Council. The nomination carried unanimously.

**Atwell Township Volunteer Fire Department**

Commissioner Tadlock nominated Clement Bost and Craig Corriher to fill two (2) fire tax commissioners vacancies. The nomination was approved unanimously.

**Centralina Workforce Development Board**

Chairman Blount stated that Ken Parr had submitted a resignation and that David Hollars, Director WDB, had made a recommendation for the vacancy. A response from the applicant had not been received.

## **ADDITIONS**

### **Discussion on Proposed Agreement with the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners**

The Clerk to the Board Commissioners distributed a handout concerning the proposed agreement between the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners concerning the description of tasks and responsibilities as related to the bond construction project.

Chairman Blount stated that a leadership meeting had been held earlier in the afternoon between the two (2) boards and that both boards appear to be in agreement regarding the process.

Chairman Blount discussed the joint understanding and flow chart between the Board of Education (BOE), Board of Commissioners (BOC) and the Construction Management Firm.

Commissioner Andrews made a motion to adopt the draft, subject to final draft by the County Manager and County Attorney. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Construction Coordination Position**

Chairman Blount referred to the nine (9) construction firms that had submitted qualification statements as the construction management firm for the school bond project. Chairman Blount stated that the firms had been narrowed down and three (3) had been through the interview process with the BOE and the BOC. Chairman Blount stated that of the three (3), the BOE is recommending Construction Control Corporation (CCC) as the construction management firm.

Commissioner Andrews said the BOE had recommended CCC based on:

- Facts and materials provided in the presentation
- CCC visited the Rowan-Salisbury School sites
- CCC met with school personnel

Chairman Blount commented on the range of fees provided by the construction firms during the interview process. Chairman Blount stated that the fee would not be determined until the scope of work had been negotiated.

Commissioner Belk pointed out that both boards are responsible to the citizens of Rowan County and should make the citizens aware of why a particular firm is chosen.

Commissioner Tadlock expressed appreciation for the firms that said they would screen the employees hired to perform work at the schools. Commissioner Tadlock emphasized that safety is an important issue when children are concerned.

Commissioner Mitchell felt it should be made clear that services provided by the construction management firm would involve more than consulting.

Chairman Blount stated that adding to the scope of services would increase the \$700,000 quote to the price range of the other firms that had been interviewed. Chairman Blount stated the issue would be turned over to staff and the BOE staff to determine the scope of services needed.

Commissioner Andrews said the BOE will be the “hiring party” and the responsibility of the BOC is to assist the process and ensure that the funds are spent as cost effective as possible.

Commissioner Belk said she had personally been favoring NC Monroe but “in the spirit of compromise” she would go along with CCC. Commissioners Andrews, Tadlock and Mitchell also agreed.

By consensus, the Board agreed to allow the County Manager and the BOE to begin negotiations with CCC to develop the final scope of work at the lowest price possible. The final details will be presented to both boards for approval.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Dewayne Richardson said he had been before the BOC three (3) times in the past ten (10) years. Mr. Richardson encouraged the Board to “strongly” review the situation concerning the lease with Fieldcrest Cannon Stadium. Mr. Richardson said his first appearance before the BOC had been eight (8) years ago to request \$8,000 for a Southeast Regional American Legion Tournament. Mr. Richardson said his request had been placed second on the agenda and was “bumped to fourth.” Mr. Richardson said at the same time the Bollweevils had also requested and received \$8,000. Mr. Richardson said the people of Rowan County “earn” the funds they need; however, the ball team organization “consistently” comes to the Board to “ask for another way to bail them out.” Mr. Richardson said the people of Rowan County are not supporting the venue and added that he had visited the stadium once and would “never step foot in it again.” Mr. Richardson continued by saying the “majority of Rowan County citizens feel exactly the same way, otherwise they would not need the reduction in their lease.” Mr. Richardson said he would request to be on the agenda in the future in order to make a formal presentation as to how much the stadium is costing Rowan County taxpayers every year.

Mr. Richardson commended the Board for its efforts to pursue the best possible avenues to save money regarding the school bond project.

Mr. Richardson said the citizens would have to “pick up the check” for the lease reduction to the stadium. Mr. Richardson stated there are hidden costs in maintaining and operating the property each year and that the taxpayers could not continue to support the stadium.

Mr. Richardson encouraged Board members to search the financial records for the last seven (7) years and said he would also provide the Board with the information at a future meeting.

Chairman Blount thanked Mr. Richardson for his attendance.

**Executive Session**

Chairman Blount recessed the meeting at 10:00 pm for an Executive Session to discuss the purchase of property.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Blount returned the Board to Open Session and with no further business to address, Chairman Blount adjourned the meeting at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita K. Foil, CMC  
Clerk to the Board