

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 23, 2005 – 1:00 PM
J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

Present: Arnold S. Chamberlain, Chairman
Jim Sides, Vice-Chairman
Steve Blount, Member
Frank Tadlock, Member
Chad Mitchell, Member

Assistant Clerk to the Board Carolyn Athey and Finance Director Leslie Heidrick were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and announced that Commissioner Blount would be a few minutes late for the meeting. Chairman Chamberlain said the Board would wait a few minutes for Commissioner Blount.

Commissioner Blount arrived at 1:05 pm.

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

ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Sides moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Mitchell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

SWEARING IN OF COUNTY ATTORNEY

Chairman Chamberlain introduced the Honorable Larry Ford, Chief Resident Superior Court Judge and Attorney John "Jay" Dees.

Judge Ford swore in Attorney Dees as Rowan County Attorney and a round of applause followed the ceremony.

Chairman Chamberlain commented that he was thrilled with “not what happened at the beginning but thrilled about what has happened as a conclusion.” Chairman Chamberlain said the County Attorney works for and at the pleasure of the County Commissioners and his professional duty was to work for, protect and advise the Board. Chairman Chamberlain said he looked forward to the expertise and passion that Mr. Dees brings.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Chamberlain opened the floor to entertain a motion for the Board to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing legal issues with the County Attorney.

Commissioner Sides moved to go into Closed Session and Commissioner Mitchell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board entered into Closed Session at 1:10 pm.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:28 pm.

Chairman Chamberlain reported that the Board had given Mr. Dees the authority to negotiate with Tim Russell and his Attorney, Randy Reamer, the carrying out of the severance package.

Commissioner Mitchell moved for adjournment followed by a second from Commissioner Blount. The motion passed unanimously and the Board adjourned at 2:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Athey
Assistant Clerk to the Board