

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
WITH THE
ROWAN SALISBURY SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUGUST 5, 2013 – 5:00 PM
J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM
J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROWAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

Judge Willis Whichard, mediator, reconvened the joint meeting of the Rowan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) and the Rowan Salisbury Schools Board of Education (BOE) at 5:00 p.m.

Commissioners present were Jim Sides, Chairman, Craig Pierce, Vice-Chairman, Jon Barber and Mike Caskey. Commissioner Chad Mitchell participated by telephone. County Manager Gary Page, Attorney Neil Yarborough, Clerk to the Board Carolyn Barger and Finance Director Leslie Heidrick were also present. County Attorney Jay Dees was absent.

BOE members in attendance were Chairman Dr. Richard Miller, Vice-Chairman Kay Wright Norman, Jean Kennedy, Susan Cox, L. A. Overcash, Joshua Wagner, and Charles Hughes. Also present was Superintendent Dr. Judy Grissom, Attorney Richard Schwartz, Finance Officer Tara Trexler and Clerk to the Board Bonnie Holder.

At the request of Judge Whichard, each Board was asked to meet in Closed Session. Judge Whichard asked to meet with the attorneys before the attorneys joined their respective boards.

Commissioner Barber moved, Commissioner Pierce seconded and the vote to enter into Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. for attorney-client privileged communication passed unanimously.

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:00 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Barber and second from Commissioner Pierce. No action was taken; however, the County's Attorney, Neil Yarborough, immediately asked the Board to return to Closed Session.

Commissioner Barber moved, Commissioner Caskey seconded and the vote to return to Closed Session at 11:00 p.m. passed 3-2 with Commissioners Sides and Pierce dissenting.

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:07 p.m. by motion from Commissioner Pierce. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey and passed unanimously.

Mr. Yarborough explained that the Commissioners still had hope of reaching a resolution during the mediation process; however, due to the late hour, Mr. Yarborough said the Commissioners preferred for the attorneys to get together and work out an agreement to be presented to the boards and with the idea to present the agreement independently.

Judge Whichard thanked both boards for their public service and for their efforts to resolve the matter. Judge Whichard then declared the mediation recessed at 11:10 p.m. until another meeting date could be determined.

Chairman Sides declared the BOC to be in recess at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Barger, CMC, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board/
Assistant to the County Manager