

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 17, 2014 – 6:00 PM**

J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM

J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROWAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
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Present: Jim Sides, Chairman
Craig Pierce, Vice-Chairman
Jon Barber, Member
Mike Caskey, Member
Chad Mitchell, Member

County Manager Gary Page, Clerk to the Board Carolyn Barger, County Attorney Jay Dees and Finance Director Leslie Heidrick were present.

Chairman Sides convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Barber provided the Invocation.

Chairman Sides recognized Matthew Licata, representing Boy Scout Troop #443 from St. John's Lutheran Church, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDER ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- Commissioner Barber moved to add to the agenda an opportunity to recognize the Livingstone College Men's Basketball Team who captured the CIAA Tournament title on March 1, 2014. Commissioner Caskey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- Chairman Sides added the issue as agenda item #2a.
- Commissioner Pierce moved to add a Closed Session for attorney client privileged communications regarding the broadcast tower issue and the mediated settlement agreement with the Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and passed 4-1 with Commissioner Barber dissenting.

- Commissioner Pierce moved to add a Closed Session discussion regarding the incentive agreement for Norandal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and passed 4-1 with Commissioner Barber dissenting.
- Commissioner Pierce moved to add to the Consent Agenda a request to set a public hearing for April 7, 2014 for SUP 01-14. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

Chairman Sides added the issue to the Consent Agenda as item I.

CONSIDER DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

There were no deletions from the agenda.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Barber moved, Commissioner Pierce seconded and the vote to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Barber moved, Commissioner Pierce seconded and the vote to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2014 and March 3, 2014 Commission Meetings passed unanimously.

1. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Pierce moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. 2013 Delinquent for Advertising
- B. Set Quasi-Judicial Hearing for CUP 02-14 for April 7, 2014
- C. Set Public Hearing for April 7, 2014 for Z-01-14
- D. Amos Aviation Limited FBP Agreement Renewal
- E. Request for Qualifications for Roofing Architectural Services
- F. Audit Contract for fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014
- G. New NRCS/SWCD/Rowan County Lease Agreement for Office Space
- H. Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, child maltreatment is a community problem and finding a solution depends upon involvement among people throughout the community;

WHEREAS, child maltreatment occurs when parents find themselves in stressful situations without community resources and unable to cope;

WHEREAS, approximately 134,088 children are reported abused and neglected in North Carolina each year;

WHEREAS, 28 children were victims of child abuse homicide in North Carolina during the year 2012;

WHEREAS, the majority of child maltreatment cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community;

WHEREAS, the effects of child maltreatment are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community;

WHEREAS, effective child maltreatment prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

THEREFORE, the Rowan County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim **April 2014** as **Child Abuse Prevention Month** in Rowan County and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child maltreatment and strengthen the communities in which we live.

- I. Set public hearing for April 7, 2014 for SUP 01-14 (addition to the Consent Agenda)

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Sides opened the Public Comment Period to entertain comments from any citizens wishing to address the Board. With no one wishing to address the Board, Chairman Sides closed the Public Comment Period.

ADDITION

2a LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Commissioner Barber discussed Livingstone College Men's Basketball Team's recent Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Tournament win on March 1, 2014. Commissioner Barber said the win was the first for the Blue Bears in the tournament's sixty-nine year history. Commissioner Barber pointed out that the team had the highest grade point average among the twelve (12) participating teams. Commissioner Barber expressed his congratulations to the team.

3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Finance Director Leslie Heidrick presented the following budget amendments for the Board's consideration:

- Finance – To increase revenues and expenditures due to an increase in adoptions - \$9,000
- Finance – To revise the fire department budget to allow for increased collections - \$336,400

Commissioner Pierce moved approval of the budget amendments as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

4. CONSIDER REQUEST FROM ROWAN COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION FOR SEWER EASEMENT

Randall Barger with the Rowan County Agricultural and Industrial Fair Association (RCFA) discussed a request for an easement for an underground sewer line on county-owned property across from the existing fairgrounds property.

Mr. Barger referred to the information that had been submitted for the agenda packet and he offered two (2) additional options. Mr. Barger explained that the new options were better for both parties and he asked the Board to consider approval of one of those two (2) options.

In response to an inquiry from Chairman Sides, Mr. Barger said the proposed route for the sewer easement by the Animal Shelter was the shortest and cheapest route.

Robert Van Geons, Economic Development Director, confirmed that Option 1 was the best route and would keep the sewer easement along the property line.

Commissioner Mitchell explained for the public's benefit, that the RCFA was submitting the request for the sewer easement so that a building could be constructed that would not otherwise be allowed.

Commissioner Mitchell moved approval of Option A. The motion was seconded by Chairman Sides.

Commissioner Barber questioned the percentage financed by the County when the property was initially sold to the RCFA. County Manager Gary Page said it had been two (2) years since the initial transaction and he could not remember the exact split.

Chairman Sides said due to delays by the County and the State, the RCFA had been waiting several months to begin the project. Chairman Sides said he did not want to see the construction held up any further.

Upon being put to a vote, the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

Commissioner Barber said the RCFA would be building a new event facility that would hold up to 400 people. Commissioner Barber then moved for the County to donate \$25,000 to help offset costs. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Page commented there was a pending economic development opportunity for the property. Mr. Page said the company would need sewer services and might also contribute to help the RCFA with the sewer costs.

ADDITION

4a. CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Pierce moved that the Board enter Closed Session at 6:15 p.m. in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) for attorney client privileged communication to discuss a broadcast tower and North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) for an incentive agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey and passed 4-1 with Commissioner Barber dissenting.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:34 p.m.

Commissioner Barber moved that the Rowan County Board of Commissioners cease any further appeals regarding a previously approved conditional use permit for construction of a broadcast tower in Mt. Ulla. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Pierce moved to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barber and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

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