

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
May 18, 2015 – 6:00 PM**

**J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM**

**J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROWAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

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Present:

Jim Greene, Vice-Chairman  
Mike Caskey, Member  
Judy Klusman, Member  
Craig Pierce, Member

Absent: Greg Edds, Chairman

County Manager Aaron Church, Clerk to the Board/Assistant to the County Manager Carolyn Barger, County Attorney Jay Dees and Assistant County Manager/Finance Director Leslie Heidrick were present.

Vice-Chairman Greene convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Chaplain Michael Taylor provided the Invocation.

Vice-Chairman Greene led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSIDER ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- Commissioner Caskey moved to add a discussion for a meeting next week to speak with the attorneys regarding the prayer issue. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and passed unanimously (4-0).

Vice Chairman Greene added the issue as agenda item #2a.

- Commissioner Caskey moved to pull item C from the Consent Agenda for discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klusman and passed unanimously (4-0).

Vice Chairman Greene added the issue as agenda item #2b.

## **CONSIDER DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA**

There were no deletions from the agenda.

## **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Pierce moved, Commissioner Klusman seconded and the vote to approve the agenda passed unanimously (4-0).

## **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Commissioner Pierce moved, Commissioner Klusman seconded and the vote to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2015 and May 4, 2015 Commission Meeting passed unanimously (4-0).

## **1. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Pierce moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klusman and passed unanimously (4-0).

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Lease Agreement for Heartstart Defibrillators
- B. Permission to Accept Woodson Grant
- C. Proclamation Recognizing EMS Week (this item was placed on the regular agenda as item #2b)
- D. Refunds for Approval
- E. Set Public Hearing for Z 04-15 for June 1, 2015
- F. Set Public Hearing for Z 05-15 for June 1, 2015
- G. Set Quasi-Judicial Hearing for CUP 02-15 for June 1, 2015
- H. Carolina Avionics December Rent Agreement
- I. HDR Change Order #2 for Phase IV Construction At Landfill
- J. Authorize County Manager To Refund Income Tax Refund Garnishments Collected In Error

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Vice-Chairman Greene opened the Public Comment Period to entertain comments from any citizens wishing to address the Board. The following individuals came forward:

- Julian Torrey provided the Board with a handout. Mr. Torrey then read the first few paragraphs of the handout, which addressed the issue of prayer.
- Larry Jones spoke regarding the issue of prayer and urged the Board to appeal the recent decision delivered by Judge Beatty.
- Matthew Jones requested the Board appeal Judge Beatty's order concerning the issue of prayer.
- Larry Wright requested the Board appeal the decision by Judge Beatty concerning the issue of prayer.

With no one else wishing to address the Board, Vice-Chairman Greene closed the Public Comment Period.

**ADDITION**

**2a. SCHEDULE SPECIAL MEETING**

The Board briefly discussed potential dates and times for a special meeting to allow for the Board to meet with its attorney regarding pending ACLU litigation.

Commissioner Pierce moved to call for a special meeting on May 27, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klusman and passed unanimously (4-0).

**2b. PROCLAMATION HONORING EMS WEEK**

Commissioner Caskey discussed an upcoming EMS event and expressed appreciation for EMS and the duties they performed.

Commissioner Caskey read the Proclamation Honoring EMS Week as follows:

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of our local emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services providers have traditionally served as the safety net of America's health care system; and

WHEREAS, locally our emergency medical services system consist of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators, and others; and

WHEREAS, approximately two-thirds of all emergency medical services providers in the nation are volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Rowan County and it's municipalities benefit daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; and

WHEREAS, injury prevention and the appropriate use of the EMS system will help reduce national health care costs; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rowan County Board of Commissioners, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 17-23, 2015 as EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK and encourages the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Commissioner Klusman recognized the EMS Staff in the audience by asking them to stand. A round of applause followed the recognition.

Commissioner Caskey moved, Commissioner Pierce seconded and the vote to approve the Proclamation as read passed unanimously (4-0).

### **3. PUBLIC HEARING: CLOSEOUT REPORT ON 2012 CDBG FOR GILDAN YARNS**

Commissioner Pierce moved to open the public hearing in order to receive the closeout report on the 2012 CDBG for Gildan Yarns. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klusman and passed 4-0.

David Hartigan of Hartigan Management reported the Gildan (CanAm Yarns) Building Reuse Project (Project) was monitored in March for compliance by the North Carolina Department of Commerce. Mr. Hartigan explained the Board must hold a public hearing to start the closeout process. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain a Closeout Report on the County's 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Economic Development for Gildan Yarns.

Commissioner Klusman thanked Mr. Hartigan for his efforts on the project and expressed appreciation for the industry locating in Rowan County.

Mr. Hartigan said he would be able to provide the County Manager with the closeout report.

Commissioner Pierce moved to accept the beginning of the closeout report. The motion was second by Commissioner Klusman and carried unanimously (4-0).

Vice-Chairman Greene opened the floor to receive citizen input regarding the Project. With no one wishing to address the Board, Vice-Chairman Greene closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Klusman moved, Commissioner Pierce seconded and the vote to closeout the Project passed unanimously (4-0).

### **4. DISCUSSION REGARDING CREATION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS ORDINANCE TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF NEW EMS STATION IN ROCKWELL**

County Manager Aaron Church recalled from the previous board meeting, the Commissioners had approved an *Amendment to the Resolution Levying An Additional One-Quarter Cent (1/4¢) County Sales and Use Tax*. The Resolution allows proceeds from the one-quarter cent sales tax to also be used to purchase, implement and/or finance other public safety capital needs.

Mr. Church explained the creation of a Capital Projects Ordinance would allow the proceeds to be used to begin construction of the new EMS Station in Rockwell.

Commissioner Caskey discussed the importance and need for an EMS station in eastern Rowan County.

Frank Thomason, Director of Emergency Management, discussed the proximity of the nearest EMS stations and how their coverage areas would be reduced when the new station was built.

Commissioner Pierce moved to create a Capital Projects Ordinance to begin construction of a new EMS station in Rockwell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey.

Before being put to a vote, Commissioner Pierce amended the motion to include a \$500,000 cap for the project. Commissioner Caskey was agreeable to the amendment.

Upon being put to a vote, the motion on the floor passed unanimously (4-0).

## **5. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

Finance Director/Assistant County Manager Leslie Heidrick presented several charts comparing the County's revenues and expenditures from 2012 to 2015.

Commissioner Pierce moved, Commissioner Klusman seconded and the vote to accept the financial report passed unanimously (4-0).

## **6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

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

- Parks – For Sarah Kepley-Hackamack Shelter Project (funded by donations) - \$10,090
- Sheriff – Recognize unrealized revenue in Federal Asset Forfeiture Fund and budget funds to Drug Education Expense Account to allow for payment of anti-drug campaign presented to all Rowan County high schools - \$6,000
- Sheriff – Recognize unrealized revenue in state prisoners' detention fees and in social security reward account for inmates in detention. Budget to salary accounts for part-time and overtime in Detention Center and to part-time account in courts - \$60,817
- Sheriff – Transfer funds to fixed asset account to allow for purchase of equipment approved by County Manager - \$34,650
- Finance – Modified budget amendment for funding request submitted by DSS on 12-02-2014 to alleviate Medicaid backlog - \$250,000

- Tax Administration – To budget for Refunding Bonds, Series 2015 and issuance costs of current year financings - \$20,470,000

Commissioner Pierce moved approval of the budget amendments. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey and passed unanimously (4-0).

#### **7. RECEIVE FY 2015-16 PROPOSED BUDGET AND SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED BUDGET**

Vice-Chairman Greene announced that County Manager Aaron Church had presented the FY 2015-26 proposed budget to the Board. Vice-Chairman Greene said the budget was also available online.

Following a brief discussion regarding a date and time for the Board to conduct a work session, Commissioner Pierce moved to schedule a work session on May 28, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey and passed unanimously (4-0).

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Pierce moved to adjourn at 6:47 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klusman and passed unanimously (4-0).

- Commissioner Pierce moved to reconvene the meeting at 6:49 p.m. in order to schedule a public hearing for the FY 2015-16 proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey and passed unanimously (4-0).

Commissioner Pierce moved to schedule a public hearing on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Pierce said the Board could hold its regularly scheduled meeting at 3:00 p.m. and recess, if needed, until 5:30 p.m. at which time the Board could reconvene. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey and carried unanimously (4-0).

With no further business, Commissioner Pierce moved to adjourn at 6:51 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Caskey and passed unanimously (4-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

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