

Minutes
Randolph County Commissioners

June 19, 2000

The Randolph County Board of Commissioners met in special budget session at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, County Office Building, 725 McDowell Road, Asheboro, NC. Commissioners Kemp, Davis, Holmes, Frye, and Mason were present.

Randolph County Schools

Worth Hatley, Superintendent, gave an update on the three new schools under construction. When these projects are completed, all their schools will have been built or renovated within the last twelve years. He stated that as they add more campuses and renovate existing ones, they will need to increase their current expense budget because they will have additional expense for bus gasoline, electricity, and other energy costs; additional teachers, maintenance workers, and other support staff; and furniture, equipment, etc. Mr. Hatley also discussed capital outlay needs, including flooring replacement, technology, athletic field houses, and buses. He also mentioned problems with recruiting teachers to the system.

Asheboro City Schools

Dr. Bob Gordon, Superintendent, gave an update on construction and renovation projects and said that when all projects are completed, all their schools will have been built or renovated within the last twelve years. He said their current expense budget will be impacted by loss of some CBA funding, addition of a school resource officer, salary increases, and increasing technology and maintenance costs. They also need a new activity bus and a new heating/air conditioning system for the gym at North Asheboro Middle School. Dr. Gordon said the Board of Education recommends that the supplemental school tax remain at 14.5¢.

Randolph Community College

Dr. Larry Linker, President, stated that he had requested \$500,000 for capital outlay but had been funded at \$100,000. He noted that the college has received \$250,000 in renovation and repair funding from the state for the first time, and these funds have helped a lot. He said if the state bond referendum passes this fall, RCC will receive \$1,344,379 from that for new construction. They are also scheduled to receive \$1,685,530 for renovation and repair. Dr. Linker gave an update on the emergency services training center under construction, parking lots being added at their Asheboro campus, an 8,000-square-foot facility being leased for their Archdale campus, and properties adjacent to the Asheboro campus that could be available for purchase in the future. He mentioned that the RCC Foundation has a capital campaign underway for a conference center.

Mental Health

Mazie Fleetwood, Area Mental Health Director, said they have frozen 9.4 positions in order to balance their budget this year, which has resulted in increased workloads for existing staff. She discussed the problems the agency has with recruiting and retention and noted that their turnover rate has exceeded 25% the last two years. She said their budget is \$186,428 short of having enough money to give the 5% salary increase recommended for County employees. However, by using lapsed salary, merit money, and additional funding expected from the state, the additional amount needed from the County would be around \$25,000. Mrs. Fleetwood asked the Board to consider adding \$25,000 to the Mental Health budget.

Dr. Ann Suggs, Chairman of the Mental Health Board, complimented the agency on their recent accreditation by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services. She said the entire Mental Health Board supports the requests of the Mental Health Agency.

Budget Discussion

The Board discussed items requested by various County departments and other agencies that were not included in the County Manager’s proposed budget, as follows:

- \$ 33,647 - Programmer/Analyst III position (for 9 months)
- 26,839 - MIS Specialist III position (for 9 months)
- 25,000 - for Mental Health
- 150,000 - Asheboro City Schools Capital Outlay (for Lindley Park School)
- \$235,486

The Board also discussed giving the City and County Schools more current expense funding than was included in the Manager’s proposed budget.

The Board recessed at 4:45 p.m. and reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing on Proposed 2000-2001 Budget

At 7:00 p.m. the Board adjourned to a duly advertised public hearing on the proposed budget.

Rashidi Zalika, Asheboro, stated that he is a candidate for the Randolph County Board of Education. He said that education should piggyback on everything the Commissioners consider, and he asked them to honor all budget requests made by both school systems.

No one else asked to speak, and Chairman Kemp closed the public hearing. He announced that final decisions concerning the budget will be made at the Commissioners’ June 26 meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Phil Kemp, Chairman

Darrell L. Frye

J. Harold Holmes

Robert B. Davis

Robert O. Mason

Alice D. Dawson