

COUNTY POLICY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 19, 1998, 11:00AM
REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Commissioner Rollin Shaw
Commissioner Johnnie Evans
Commissioner J. Lee Warren, Jr.
OTHERS: James Martin, Deputy County Manager
Juanita Pilgrim, Asst. County Manager
Neil Yarborough, County Attorney
Jerome Brown, City of Fayetteville
Don Stewart
Matthew Smith
Marsha Fogle
H. Mac Tyson, II

1. Election of Chairman: The committee unanimously appointed Commissioner Shaw, Chairman.
2. Designation of Regular Meeting Time (currently 3rd Thursday at 11:00AM)

The committee decided to keep this time.

3. Approval of Minutes: August 21, 1997

Commissioner Warren offered a motion to approve the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans and unanimously adopted.

4. Discussion/Consideration of the Proposed County-Wide Transit Plan

Based on action at the August meeting, Mr. Jerome Brown gave the committee some information concerning total revenues, passengers, and mileage traveled in their current routes. The information indicates that for fiscal year 1998, there are 1.41 passengers per mile and 18.46 passengers per hour on their routes.

In response to some questions, Mr. Brown noted the following:

1. this is a service that has to be subsidized;
2. ridership depends on convenience of schedule;
3. some businesses may be willing to subsidize the cost of the ticket for their employees if the schedule would guarantee their employees getting to work;
4. at the present time the federal government pays for 80% of the current service, the state pays for 10% and the City picks up the other 10%; (the City contributed approximately \$900,000 last year)
5. the proposed county-wide system would cover Spring Lake, Hope Mills, Kelly Springfield, Industrial Park, Airport, Fort Bragg and the western part of the county;
6. there would still be rural pockets of the county which would not receive service;
7. Buses cost about \$240,000, vans (15 passenger) cost \$40,000 but have to be replaced more often (about every 3 years)
8. it is just about as cost effective to run buses as it is vans; (the life of a bus is about 12 years although the City of Fayetteville runs them longer than that);

Mr. Brown said he would like for the Board of Commissioners to endorse the proposed county-wide transportation system plan.

It was noted that the County has applied for a grant for some transportation funding. This funding would be used to provide Work-First transportation to the county Industrial Park, Wal-Mart Distribution Center and Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. This cost of this serve during the period March 1 - September 20, 1998 is \$125,753. The county would be eligible for a second year grant.

Commissioner Warren noted he was a new member of this committee and had not had an opportunity to look at the proposed county-wide plan.

Commissioner Warren offered a motion that we accept the report as information and that Mr. Brown send a copy of the proposed plan to all of the commissioners to review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Evans and passed unanimously. Commissioner Evans asked if there was a map that showed each stop on the current route. Mr. Brown indicated there was no map per se, but he could tell them where each stop took place. Mr. Evans indicated this information would be helpful.

5. Discussion/consideration of Mailing Commissioner Invitations to Sunshine List

It was noted that one of our commissioners would like to have invitations mailed to members on the Sunshine List. The question that came up was is this is a legitimate county expense. The County Attorney indicated he believed it was. Committee members said they had no problems with individual commissioners having their invitations faxed to the press, even though it is not *legally* necessary.

No action needed on this item.

MEETING ADJOURNED