

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES**

March 22, 2011 – 3:00 pm

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on March 22, 2011, at 3:00 pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia. The following Board members were present: Chairman Debra Buchanan, Vice-Chairman H.G. Vaughn, Jim Adams, Milton Kendall, Tommy Slaughter, and Joe Bryant.

Staff members present were Benny Summerlin, County Administrator; Tim Hall, Deputy County Administrator; George Lyle, County Attorney; Michelle Via, Administrative Assistant; Susan Reynolds, Director of Human Resources; Darrell Jones, Director of Finance; and Richard Stanfield, Deputy Director of Finance.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Sgt. Ronnie Minter, and Deputy Mike Hooper from the Sheriff's Office were present. Debbie Hall and Paul Collins of the Martinsville Bulletin and Ron Morris of B-99 were also present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Slaughter gave the invocation and Mr. Kendall led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Buchanan called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. She stated that anyone who wishes to be on the Agenda for the Board's regular business meeting held at 3:00 pm must contact the County Administrator's Office seven days prior to a scheduled meeting. Those wishing to speak at the Board's public meeting starting at 6:00 pm may do so under Agenda Item - Matters Presented by the Public without contacting the County Administrator's Office.

ITEMS OF CONSENT:

Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings

(Copy included in Board's File).

- February 22, 2011

Approval of Accounts Payable

(Copy included in Board's File).

Mr. Adams moved that the Items of Consent be adopted as presented, seconded by Mr. Vaughn. The motion carried 6 to 0.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING APRIL 2011 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN HENRY COUNTY

At the request of the Martinsville-Henry County Exchange Club, staff prepared a resolution establishing April 2011 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Henry County. Mr. Kendall read the resolution aloud.

Mr. Slaughter moved to adopt the resolution as presented, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried. Mr. Ralph Lawson, along with a member of the Board of Directors of the Exchange Club was present to accept the resolution.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING APRIL 2011 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH IN HENRY COUNTY

The County's grant contracts with the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development (VDHCD) require that for each grant year that a CDBG project is active, the County must conduct one activity that promotes fair housing. Staff recommends adopting a resolution declaring April as "Fair Housing Month."

Mr. Adams made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and carried 6 to 0.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC – PHIL SPARKS

Mr. Phil Sparks of Martinsville was present to ask the Board to consider renaming Greensboro Road to Speedway Blvd. in Henry County. Mr. Sparks distributed a handout (Copy included in Board's File) outlining his remarks. Mr. Sparks said he began to explore the feasibility of renaming the road after he received numerous positive responses to a letter he wrote to the Martinsville Bulletin. Mr. Sparks said he checked with the Virginia Department of Transportation and the postal service to ensure the road name could be changed without creating a hardship on affected residents and businesses. Also, Mr. Sparks spoke with the director of the Darden School of Business at UVA who concurred that Speedway Blvd. would promote the community. Mr. Sparks said the Chamber of Commerce fully endorsed the idea and there were no objections in a random sampling of affected businesses. Mr. Sparks stated that a study released in 2009 put the local economic impact of the Martinsville Speedway at \$170 million a year and the change would help promote Henry County, Martinsville and the Martinsville Speedway.

Mr. Lee Clark, Director of Planning and Zoning, said that he does not disagree with Mr. Sparks in theory, but logistically, the change would be a challenge. Mr. Clark said he knew from experience that when a road is renamed, you have affected a lot more than a handful of people living or working in the immediate area. Although the change could be implemented locally within the 911 Center, GIS, and other areas, Mr. Clark said the renamed road likely would not appear on Google Maps, MapQuest and other online sources until those companies update their information. Mr. Clark said

reprinting business materials such as letterhead and envelopes is an added expense for affected businesses as well.

Mr. Clark stated that the Board adopted a moratorium and set criteria on road name changes in 2009 including that only a County resident can initiate a change. In addition, that person is required to contact County staff to ensure the name is unique and is not being used in another area of the county or the city, and the person initiating the change also is required to collect 100 percent of the signatures of residents and property owners along the affected road.

Mr. Vaughn asked if a road name could be changed for a specific span of road. Mr. Clark said it can be done but is discouraged for public safety reasons. Mr. Summerlin said Speedway Road already exists. Mr. Clark said there is also a Speedway Blvd. that was named privately by the Martinsville Speedway on its property at the new entrance.

Mr. Adams said Knauss Drive in the Patriot Centre has been an established road for seven years and still does not show on any major search sites. Ms. Buchanan asked how many businesses and residents would be affected. Mr. Clark said he does not readily have that information.

Mr. Vaughn said Mr. Sparks contacted him several weeks ago to discuss the idea. Mr. Vaughn said he also agrees with the concept and asked Mr. Sparks to present it to the Board. Mr. Vaughn said he has not really had an opportunity to poll residents and businesses other than the Martinsville Speedway. Mr. Vaughn said Clay Campbell was receptive to the idea and stated that many of the other tracks' thoroughfares are named Speedway Blvd. Mr. Vaughn commended Mr. Sparks on his creative thinking and said he did not want to shelve this idea permanently. Mr. Vaughn said his initial thoughts were that the ideal time to consider renaming the road would be when I73 is built, but we do not know when that may be. Mr. Vaughn said he would like to talk to citizens and businesses along Greensboro Road in the coming months to get their input.

CONSIDERATION OF DESIGN PLAN REVISIONS FOR THE SOUTH STREET AND RIVERSIDE DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Summerlin said the Program designs for the South Street and Riverside Drive improvement projects are the administrative guidelines to be utilized by the Housing Rehab Boards and the Management Teams. Recently both plans were revised to convert our programs from a loan/grant program to a grant program. In order to encourage more program participation and to simplify the housing rehab program, projects will no longer implement a loan/grant program based on the client's ability to pay and to now operate the program(s) as a grant only and recapture the rehab investment if the property is occupied by a non-low-to-moderate income household within ten years of the completion of construction. The boards for these projects have approved these changes.

Mr. Adams moved that the Board approve the new Program designs for the South Street and Riverside Drive improvement projects, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Scott Grindstaff reviewed the monthly reports on delinquent tax collection efforts. Mr. Grindstaff noted a significant spike in TACS February collections due to 650 DMV stops placed. Mr. Grindstaff said his office is now processing decal sales. Mr. Grindstaff said in the next few months, he would like to meet with the Board to discuss some different billing methods for decals used by other localities.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Ms. Leigh Cockram, Vice President of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, was present to make the monthly update to the Board. Ms. Cockram reviewed a summary of activities by division (Copy included in Board's File) and reported that the Tourism Division has launched a new film office website featuring areas to shoot movies and films. Ms. Cockram said the EDC is working with a total of 17 projects, including 12 active projects.

AWARD OF CONTRACT – HOUSING REHABILITATION FOR RIVERSIDE DRIVE PROJECT

Mr. Summerlin said this item was not complete prior to the Board's packet being sent out. County staff has received bids for housing rehabilitation work at 3171 Riverside Drive in Bassett and the low bid was Rodney Wood Construction in the amount of \$21,120.00. Contingent upon approval by the Riverside Drive Housing Rehabilitation Board, staff recommends the award of contract to Rodney Wood Construction. Mr. Summerlin said the project would be paid for with grant funds.

Mr. Bryant moved to award the contract to Rodney Wood Construction in the amount of \$21,120.00, seconded by Mr. Kendall and approved 6 to 0.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Ms. Buchanan announced she will be having a Horsepasture District Community Meeting on Tuesday, April 19 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Fieldale Community Center.

Mr. Summerlin reminded the Board of several upcoming events: the employee awards dinner on Thursday, March 24 at Chatmoss Country Club; the public hearing on Interstate 73 is March 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Laurel Park Middle School; the Sprint Cup race will be at Martinsville Speedway April 3; and the Total County Budget presentation is April 5 at 5:00.

Mr. Summerlin said the County was recently contacted by the State Rescue Squad Association. Mr. Summerlin said the association hosts an annual training program in Blacksburg and is looking for surplus school buses to be used in training. Mr. Summerlin said the school division has an old bus without a motor or transmission that they can donate to the County which can then donate it to the rescue association.

Mr. Summerlin said the association will be responsible for disposal of the bus once their training is complete.

Mr. Summerlin stated that the Sheriff's Office and Martinsville-Henry County SPCA partnered last May in an effort to adopt out more animals. The SPCA provides for an employee to work at the animal shelter for adoption, entering data, cleaning and other duties. Mr. Summerlin said the arrangement also helps the animal control officers. Mr. Summerlin said the position was initially funded by donations and if the Board has no objections, he would like to partially subsidize it beginning now through the next fiscal year. Mr. Summerlin said it would cost approximately \$10,000 annually, about one-third of the total salary.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Adams moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:45 p.m., seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried to discuss the following.

- 1) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Henry-Martinsville Social Services Board, Patrick Henry Community College Board, and Southern Area Agency on Aging Board.
- 2) §2.2-3711(A)7 for Consultation with the County Attorney re: Pending Legal Matters.
- 3) §2.2-3711(A)3 for Consultation with the County Attorney re: Acquisition/Disposal of Real Estate.
- 4) §2.2-3711(A)5 for Consultation with the County Attorney re: Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries.
- 5) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Personnel Matters.

OPEN MEETING:

The Board returned to an open meeting at 5:27 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING:

Mr. Summerlin read the Certification of the Closed Meeting and took a roll call vote. Those voting in the affirmative were Mr. Slaughter, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Vaughn, Mr. Adams, and Ms. Buchanan.

The Board recessed its meeting at 5:27 p.m. until the 6:00 evening session.

Ms. Buchanan called the meeting back to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone present.

Ms. Buchanan recognized several scouts from Troop 167 of Bassett who are working on their citizenship in the community badge.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Ms. Dorothy Carter of the Reed Creek District, and President of the Henry County Education Association, was present to address the Board concerning the upcoming budget and urged the Board to consider what is best for the children. Ms. Carter stated that the education of our children plays a vital role in bringing Henry County out of its economic recession. Ms. Carter said today's children are concerned about their education unlike 13 years ago when she first came to the area. Ms. Carter thanked the Board for their past and future support.

PUBLIC HEARING – SCHOOL BOARD REQUEST TO RETAIN FY 2010 CARRY-OVER FUNDS

Mr. Summerlin said at the Board's February meeting, School Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson asked the Board for permission for the School Board to retain \$1,518,992 carry-over funds from the FY 2010 budget. Dr. Jackson indicated that the School Board would use the funds for multiple items, including operations and maintenance issues and to expand the I-Pad initiative to third grade students. This budget amendment would be greater than 1% of the Total County Budget of just over \$109 million, so a public hearing is required.

Ms. Buchanan opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Ms. Buchanan closed the public hearing at 6:05. Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve \$1,528,992 in school carry-over funds, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried 6 to 0.

PUBLIC HEARING – DISPOSITION OF FORMER IRISBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND FORMER SOUTH MARTINSVILLE COMPLEX

Mr. Summerlin said the Henry County School Board recently declared the former Irisburg Elementary School and the former South Martinsville Annex to be surplus property and returned the facilities to the County. In order to dispose of the properties, the Board must hold a public hearing to receive community input on the process. Ms. Buchanan opened the public hearing at 6:06 p.m.

Mr. Carl Keith, Pastor of CrossPoint Church, was present to express his organization's interest in the former South Martinsville facility and said they have already submitted a written proposal. Mr. Keith stated the church has been established three years and currently rents Bassett High School. Mr. Keith said plans for the facility include providing office space, outreach, and leadership training.

There being no one else present who wished to speak, Ms. Buchanan closed the public hearing at 6:07.

Mr. Adams asked Mr. Summerlin to explain the Board's procedure for the disposition of property in the past. Mr. Summerlin said the Board has disposed of a number of buildings, most recently Ridgeway Elementary School. Mr. Summerlin said the Board accepts proposals and takes into consideration the future use of the facility and how that use will fit in with the community, as well as the proposed purchase price, and makes a decision based on those factors.

Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board direct the County Administrator to accept proposals on the disposition of both school facilities through Monday, May 2, 5:00 p.m. Mr. Vaughn said the proposal should include the name of the person or group proposing to buy the property; the proposed use of the facility; how the proposed use will fit in with the surrounding community; and the best purchase price the applicant can offer based on a starting minimum bid of \$100,000 for Irisburg Elementary School, and South Martinsville Annex, \$75,000. Mr. Vaughn said the Board reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Copies of the motion were available upon request from Mr. Hall.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-11-01 – HENRY COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Mr. Clark said the property is located in the northeast corner of the intersection of Beaver Creek Drive and Nautica Way in the Collinsville District and shown as part of Tax Map 30.4/41X. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 24.6 acres from Industrial District I-1 to Limited Industrial District I-2. The property is identified as Lot 6 of the Industrial Park Expansion Master Plan of the Patriot Centre at Beaver Creek, prepared by Wiley and Wilson, dated January 8, 1999. The applicant wishes to make certain additional uses available at this site that are not currently available in order to approve the marketability of the site. Mr. Clark said following a public hearing, both the Planning Commission and staff recommended approval of this request.

Ms. Buchanan opened the public hearing at 6:12 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 6:12. Mr. Adams moved that the Board follow the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the rezoning request, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0.

PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED HENRY COUNTY MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REALIGNMENT

Mr. Clark said with the release of updated Census information every 10 years, localities are required to revisit their magisterial district borders to ensure they still meet all requirements based on population. At its planning session, the Board appointed a Redistricting Committee, one representative from each district and an at-large representative. The committee met and suggested changes based on general guidelines provided to all localities. Mr. Clark said you basically take the new 2010 Census figure for the County, 54,151, and divide it by six, which is the number of magisterial districts, to get the ideal population for each district.

Mr. Clark said the committee tried to follow existing block lines so as to remain relevant to the Census data gathered. The recommended changes are to move 322 voters from the Hillcrest precinct in the Ridgeway District to the Horsepasture Ruritan precinct in the Horsepasture District. Also, 134 voters would be moved from the Mountain Valley precinct in the Iriswood District to Dyers Store precinct in the Reed Creek District. Mr. Clark said the next step is for the Board to schedule a public hearing for the April meeting. Mr. Clark said he has already prepared the proposed ordinance changes and public hearing notice.

Mr. Vaughn questioned the variance between districts. Mr. Clark explained that the acceptable range must be no more than 5 percent deviation from the median in order to be in compliance with state guidelines.

Mr. Adams moved that the Board follow the recommendation of the Redistricting Committee as presented and set a public hearing for the April meeting, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and unanimously carried.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

Ms. Lisa Hughes, Residency Administrator for the Virginia Department of Transportation, was present to update the Board on General Highway Matters.

Ms. Hughes reminded the Board of three upcoming hearings: the I-73 public hearing on the environmental assessment on March 29 at 4:00 p.m. at Laurel Park Middle School; the Secondary Six-Year Plan hearing will be held at the April 26 Board meeting; and the Interstate and Primary Six-Year Plan hearing will be May 12 in Salem. Mr. Summerlin asked Ms. Hughes if the Board needs to take action on its primary list. Ms. Hughes said yes, that should be done next month.

Mr. Summerlin invited the Board to a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Martinsville Speedway on March 31 at 11:00 a.m. to unveil the new renovation improvements.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved at 6:28 p.m. to continue the meeting to April 5 at 5:00 p.m. for the presentation of the FY 2012 Budget, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0.