

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

April 5, 2011 – 5:00 pm

The Henry County Board of Supervisors met on April 5, 2011, at 5:00 pm in the Fourth Floor Conference Room of the County Administration Building, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting was to present the FY 2011-'12 County Budget. The following Board members were present: Chairman Debra Buchanan, Vice Chairman H. G. Vaughn; Jim Adams, Milton Kendall, Joe Bryant and Tommy Slaughter.

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

Debbie Hall of the Martinsville Bulletin was present. Also present were Sheriff Lane Perry and Dr. Anthony Jackson and Dawn Lawson of the Henry County School Board.

Chairman Buchanan called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. She stated this is a continuation of the Board's March 22, 2011 meeting. Ms. Buchanan recognized Alex Stone who is working on his Eagle Scout requirements.

AWARD OF CONTRACT – SOUTH STREET HOUSING REHABILITATION PROJECT

Mr. Summerlin stated that the South Street Housing Rehab Board reviewed and approved an award of contract to Lawson Brothers Contractors in the amount of \$79,500 for the substantial reconstruction of a property located at 82 South Street in Bassett. Mr. Summerlin said the project would be paid for with grant funds.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion to award the contract to Lawson Brothers Contractors in the amount of \$79,500, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried.

PRESENTATION OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S PROPOSED 2011-2012 BUDGET

Mr. Summerlin gave an overview of the Discussion and Analysis for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Proposed Operating Budget for the County of Henry and Capital Improvements Plan as outlined below:

“If you close your eyes, I can see a college town in 10 years.”

*Dr. Shirley Travis
Dean of College of Health and Human Services
George Mason University*

If we could actually see 10 years into the future, the process of putting together a budget would be greatly enhanced. Obviously we can't do that; all we can do is plan, estimate, extrapolate, and rely on trends to make projections.

But sometimes it really comes down to faith – is this community ready to take the next big step? When Dr. Travis made the comment above to the *Martinsville Bulletin* earlier this year, she obviously felt the answer was yes. Your administrative staff votes “yes” too.

The Martinsville-Henry County community is starting to peek out of the bunker. The local economy still lags the national trends, but some progress is being made. New jobs have been landed through both new and existing companies. We are optimistic that more good news is on its way.

Foremost in that category is the transformation of New College Institute that Dr. Travis references in her remark above. The development of NCI 2.0, and whatever form it takes, is the most important item we will track over the next 12 months.

As reflected in the cover of this year's budget presentation, we think the sky is the limit for NCI, regardless of its dance partner. The process is filled with quality candidates. George Mason? Radford? Virginia Commonwealth? Virginia State? That decision is still to come. But the fact that there will be a decision, and this dream of a four-year university becomes closer to reality, the more excited we are. From where we stand, we see the same thing Dr. Travis sees – a community ready for its close-up.

Before we get into what's to come, let us take a look at what FY 2010-2011 handed us. It was not an easy year, but we were able to maneuver through a difficult time thanks in part to our outstanding staff. We are blessed to have high quality employees who truly care about this community and its future. As this ship begins to turn, we are comfortable in the knowledge that we do so with the best crew possible.

FY 2010-11 Highlights

- Employment opportunities always drive the bus. We were fortunate to have four announcements of new or expanding businesses in Henry County. They were:
 - Monogram Foods - 150 new jobs and a \$4 million capital investment
 - Kimball Hospitality – 67 new jobs, \$1 million capital investment
 - SleepSafe Beds – 13 new jobs, \$1 million capital investment
 - The Tile Shop – 25 jobs, \$1.3 million capital investment

According to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Martinsville-Henry County ranked second in the number of new jobs announced (538) and capital investment (\$12.4 million) from January 2010 through September 2010.

- We continued to work on our next big economic development project, the Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership provided a Major Employment and Investment Grant of \$1.5 million to be used on site preparation for CCBC. We also worked to cobble together money to extend utilities to the site, and even though the Economic Development

Administration refused to consider our request for funding, other partners stepped up. Contributions for the water and sewer extensions included:

- The Tobacco Commission, \$1.7 million
- The Harvest Foundation, \$860,000
- City of Martinsville, \$292,400
- Small Business Administration, \$800,000

Coupled with Henry County's cash commitment of \$567,600 and our staff's incredible hard work, we were able to open bids for the water line extension February 16. The low bidder was the E.C. Pace Construction Co. of Roanoke in the amount of \$1,079,990, which was considerably under the estimate of roughly \$1.6 million.

- Martinsville Speedway and parent company International Speedway Corporation announced that the Speedway would continue to play host to two NASCAR Sprint Cup races per year for at least the next five years. The Tobacco Commission awarded Martinsville Speedway a grant of \$1.5 million, which was matched by Martinsville Speedway for a \$3 million project to upgrade facility infrastructure. VDOT constructed a new on/off ramp on US 58 adjacent to the Speedway, which helps traffic flow on race weekends. All of the improvements were on display this past weekend for the first Sprint Cup race of the season, and the fan reaction was overwhelmingly positive.
- The Virginia Tourism Corporation has also committed to help promote Martinsville Speedway's Sprint Cup events in its nationwide marketing campaigns. The VTC also is the sponsor for the Speedway's annual Late Model Stock Car event, which is now The Virginia is for Racing Lovers 300.
- The Dick and Willie Trail was unveiled and has been a tremendous drawing card for the area. Our partners on this project included the City, Congressman Rick Boucher, Congressman Tom Perriello, DRBA, Martinsville-Henry County Rivers and Trails, the Virginia Department of Transportation, Norfolk Southern Railroad, and the Commonwealth Transportation Board. A good indication of the trail's popularity? Try finding a parking spot at any of the trailheads on a nice weekend day. The \$1.3 million project was entirely funded by grants.
- We are in the process of having the Philpott Lake marina study updated. The Board authorized \$5,200 towards the cost of the update, which will be done by the Lane Group. The Corps of Engineers has asked the County to consider operating a small marina at Philpott Lake.
- Our recreational opportunities continued to grow. In addition to the Dick and Willie Trail's debut, we added a new river access point on the Great Road in Fieldale. Solutia was a tremendous partner in this venture. Our Parks and Recreation Department again co-sponsored the Smith River Festival with Franklin County, the Dan River Basin Association, and the EDC. The Smith River Sports Complex showed considerable improvement in all aspects, including operations and scheduling. The facility is becoming a destination for college, high school and community events. In addition, the County contributed \$10,000 toward the construction of the skateboard park at Frank Wilson Park in the City.
- Staff feels it is important to continue pushing the Commonwealth of Virginia toward development of the Mayo River State Park. This park would mirror one in

North Carolina and could add significantly to our tourism efforts. The Commonwealth is scheduled to start work soon on a master plan for the park. Currently the state owns approximately 350 acres for the park.

- The Piedmont Area Regional Transit system, or PART, continues to grow. Ridership was up more than 30% year-to-date from March 2010 (1,020 riders) to March 2011 (1,325 riders). Henry County's share of the funding was \$10,556 in 2010, as part of an overall budget of about \$240,000; however, funding from the Commonwealth's Department of Rail and Public Transportation for FY 2012 is likely to be cut by \$27,500. If Henry County and Martinsville make up that difference on an even split, Henry County's cost for FY 2012 would be \$22,146. Staff will bring this item to the Board, along with the updated passenger numbers, at the April 26 Board meeting. A decision on whether to continue the program would be needed at that time.
- The Board of Supervisors presented its two community awards to very deserving recipients. The "Jack Dalton Award" went to Pat Ross of the Bassett Historical Center, and the "Outstanding Military Veteran" was presented to Olaf Hurd, Jr. In the past these two awards have been given out in consecutive months – one in November and one in December. Staff recommends that these be separated a bit by giving out the "Jack Dalton Award" in January for service to the community in the previous year.
- We worked with the Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society to transition ownership of the old Henry County Courthouse in uptown Martinsville. The facility officially became the property of the Historical Society on June 30, and the grand re-opening of the facility in March was spectacular.
- Thanks to the incredible hard work by Public Safety Director Dale Wagoner and his staff, the County was able to kick off our new Emergency Medical Services plan in November. As you recall, that plan blended paid personnel on the County's side with our hardworking volunteers, with revenue recovery as a vital component. As part of this new initiative, the County acquired the former Martinsville-Henry County Rescue Squad building for use as a base for our paid personnel. In the program's first four months, our supplemental staff assisted volunteer rescue squad on 999 calls, or 249.75 calls per month. Of those calls, 61.8% were the County assisting one of the squads and 38.2% were the County crew on the County ambulance. Prior to implementation, these calls would have been turned over to a private contractor and resulted in lost revenue for the volunteer rescue squad. Even with the new approach, we still average 36.75 calls per month that are turned over to an outside agency. Details on how to enhance the program in FY 2012 are included below.
- The energy efficiency project, under the leadership of Tim Byrd, is nearing completion. The project cost \$884,998 and was funded through block grants (\$779,998) and matching funds (\$105,000). Through this project we were able to make many improvements to the administrative complex, including energy education (\$49,000), lighting retrofit (\$325,998) and supplemental solar hot water heat for the jail (\$510,000). Staff is beginning to track electricity usage and cost reductions and the initial trend shows some savings in both categories.

- The decision to use an inmate workforce for trash pickup has been a good one. The program has picked up 4,646 bags of trash from its inception in May 2010 through February 2011. That's a per-month average of 464 bags, which far exceeds our monthly pickups under the former Assign-A-Highway program.
- The Martinsville-Henry County 9-1-1 Communications Center installed next-generation call processing equipment using \$502,000 in grant funds.
- The Sheriff's Office received a \$422,919 grant from the Justice Department to three years to hire a Community Oriented Policing (COPS) officer, a crime analyst, and a gang/drug intelligence officer. The grant was the largest in Virginia and one of just six received state-wide.
- Our school system had an exceptional year. It received a grant to participate in a Beyond Books pilot program using I-Pads for all fourth- and fifth-grade students, and now is playing host to teachers from all over the country to show them how to upgrade to the digital age. The partnership included international companies such as Apple and Adobe. One extra benefit of this initiative was the opportunity for County employees to purchase I-Pads through the school system's contract. The school system was one of eight systems in the entire Commonwealth to earn the 2011 Board of Education Excellence Award, and each school in the system is fully accredited. Carver Elementary, Fieldale-Collinsville Middle, and Sanville Elementary received the Virginia Board of Education's VIP Excellence Award, and FCMS was one of only five middle schools in the country to receive the National Breakthrough School of the Year Award from the National Association of Secondary School Principals.
- The Bassett High School Marching Band won its fourth straight state championship and finished third in its division at the United States Scholastic Band Association national championships.
- Finally, the school system received \$3.4 million in qualified school construction bonds from the Commonwealth of Virginia for the replacement of the HVAC system at Magna Vista High School.
- The school system returned the former Irisburg Elementary and South Martinsville facilities to Henry County. The Board held a public input session on these buildings March 22 and will receive proposals by May 2.
- The school system placed its maintenance offices at the Henry County Service Center, making this site a one-stop-shop for County, PSA and school system maintenance needs.
- The school systems of Henry County and the City of Martinsville agreed to investigate merger options. The Board of Supervisors and City Council passed resolutions endorsing the merger studies, and discussions are ongoing.
- Our office of Planning, Zoning and Inspections was busy this year. The department continues to manage the Riverside Drive and South Street rehabilitation projects in Bassett, as well as the Virginia Avenue Transportation Enhancement Project. That project, funded by \$371,000 in grants, will be phased in and will result in improvements to the Virginia Avenue corridor from Bassett Forks to Commonwealth Boulevard. We should know by June if our current application will be funded so Phase I may begin.

- Our Sheriff's Office continues to work the accreditation process. A site visit, a major part of the process, will be held in April.
- Our Human Resources office worked hard this year on two major projects – updating our personnel manual and implementing flexible spending accounts for employees. The personnel manual update was the first comprehensive update since 2002.
- We continue to receive money from the 5B's case. In the current fiscal year we've received \$171,549 in principal and interest payments from the company.
- We are partnering with the Phoenix Community Development Corporation to analyze the former Social Services building in uptown Martinsville. Phoenix will study future options for the building.
- There was some movement on the Interstate 73 front. The Commonwealth Transportation Board released an environmental assessment of the alternate route endorsed by the Board of Supervisors and found no significant environmental issues with it. A public hearing on the alternative route was held March 29. The Board will need to decide if it wants the CTB to change the route from the approved alignment to the Henry County alternative.
- The 2010 Census showed a declining population for Martinsville-Henry County. Staff is confident that with more job opportunities will come more residents, which only underscores how important economic development is to our community. The updated Census will result in redistricting for magisterial districts, as well as the re-drawing of state and federal lines too.
- According to our FY 2010 audit, our Fund Balance increased \$1,288,048 during the year. That is a reflection of our conservative budgeting approach and our conservative spending approach. We have included separate pages showing our reserve accounts later in this document. We collected \$937,740 in back taxes for FY 2011 through February 28, and the effort put forth is proving to be fruitful. Staff believes it is important to continue this effort with TACS and through our County Treasurer's Office.

Proposed FY 2011-2012 County Budget

The proposed FY 2011-12 Henry County budget is \$126,221,132. That amount is 15.3% more than last year's budget of \$109,444,497. However, the increase is overwhelmingly due to the grant funds and other outside funding (a total of \$15 million) for the Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre grading project.

Staff is recommending that the school system receive an allocation of \$16,577,895 from the County this year, which is \$500,000 less than the current year's allocation. Staff and the Board went to extraordinary means last year to provide level funding to the school system because of its potential overall reduction of \$8 million from state and federal sources. That outside funding has stabilized, and staff believes that a reduction of \$500,000 would not cause undue hardship on the school system and would provide some breathing room in the overall County budget.

Staff is not recommending a pay raise for County staff this year, marking the third consecutive year that our employees will go without a pay raise. Staff recommends that the County continue to pick up the cost of our employees' single-subscriber health insurance premiums, which will rise 15.6 percent in FY 2012. Our employees continue

to work harder while their buying power gets weaker. However, the same can be said for everyone drawing a check at any company, and any compensation increase for County employees that adds to ongoing costs such as retirement and fringe benefits would be difficult to swallow.

In lieu of a pay raise, we recommend that the Board approve a one-time 3% stipend to full-time employees, from funds within the current year's budget and payable in May. Part-time employees who have worked for at least six months and worked at least 60 hours a month are recommended to receive a flat \$300 stipend. Staff has worked diligently to save money over the past 12 months, and as we've outlined, is working harder without compensation increases. This approach would reward them while also eliminating any ongoing costs associated with a pay raise.

Many localities in the Commonwealth are taking this approach this year, including neighboring Franklin County. The Henry County school system is proposing a 3% pay raise for its employees this year.

Staff also is recommending a significant change in how business equipment and machinery and tools are taxed and assessed. Henry County assesses fair market value of business equipment and machinery and tools at 71% of the original purchase price regardless of the age of equipment. The tax rate is \$1.19 per \$100 of assessed value. The assessment ratio is constant and does not decline as the equipment ages. This is an antiquated method, and staff has worked with the Commissioner of the Revenue to propose a new path forward.

We are recommending that, effective for new equipment purchased in 2011, a sliding scale is implemented as follows:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| ○ Year 1 | 97% |
| ○ Year 2 | 87% |
| ○ Year 3 | 77% |
| ○ Year 4 | 67% |
| ○ Year 5 and thereafter | 57% |

Most new equipment is purchased by companies in our Enterprise Zones and therefore subject to tax rebate for five years, with Year 1 at 100% rebate and years 2-5 at 50% rebate. For all purchases in year 2010 and prior, fair market value would be calculated at 57% of original cost.

In order to make these changes revenue-neutral (the County would not receive any additional tax revenue from companies), the tax rate will require adjustment from \$1.19 per \$100 to \$1.48 per \$100. **Since the tax rate would change, the Board would have to advertise the change as a tax increase; however, companies would pay exactly the same amount of taxes and the County would receive the same amount, which effectively means no tax increase.** Currently the County collects approximately \$4,931,823 in business equipment and machinery and tools taxes.

The entire budget is presented within this document in great detail and we encourage anyone reading it to do so in great detail. However, some highlights of the proposal are as follows:

- The Budget funds our Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) obligation of \$40,000 in the employee benefits cost center.

- A vacant position in the Clerk of Circuit Court's office that was eliminated in previous budgets has been reinstated. A portion of this position would be paid for by the Compensation Board.
- The County's hiring freeze will continue. All positions were reviewed to determine if the County could operate without them. We have eliminated a position in the Building Inspection office because the number of permits and inspections is down. We also eliminated a position in the Treasurer's Office that currently is vacant.
- A part-time paramedic position is elevated to full-time status. The EMS budget accounts for providing the service for the entire fiscal year. The program began in November 2010, so we have provided services for eight months. Because of the expected time frame needed for the paperwork, we have three months' of soft-billing data. However, if that data is projected over 12 months, the following annual amounts would be realized by each squad:
 - Axton - \$72,240
 - Bassett - \$168,912
 - Fieldale-Collinsville - \$142,236
 - Horsepasture - \$13,840
 - Ridgeway - \$78,840
- Staff recommends inclusion of \$175,000 for a fire truck for the Dyers Store Volunteer Fire Department and \$95,000 for an ambulance for the Ridgeway Rescue Squad.
- The Board's contingency fund is proposed to increase to \$150,000 and would include a \$50,000 fuel contingency for all departments. The volatility of gas prices makes it difficult to adequately budget in each cost center; therefore a contingency pool is needed.
- The Budget provides for manning another Convenience Center, this time the one on Country Road. This leaves only the Stoney Mountain site without onsite staffing.
- The Refuse Collection budget reflects continued operation of the inmate work program with the Martinsville Sheriff's Department. The program's success in its first year was outlined above.
- The Voter Registrar's budget reflects the possibility of four different elections and/or primaries this year, and the required legal notices for redistricting.
- The Commissioner of the Revenue's budget includes increased funding for the four-year reassessment, which our assessors began working on January 1. The new assessments would be effective January 18, 2013.
- The Budget reflects level funding for the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, with the understanding that \$100,000 of the County contribution continues for debt service obligations on industrial land purchases.
- The Commonwealth transferred to localities the obligation of funding the Line of Duty benefit for law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel. Staff is analyzing options for the best way to manage this unfunded mandate, and \$50,000 is included in the FY 2012 budget to move forward.

- The Sheriff's Office budget reflects the replacement of eight patrol cars, the same number we replaced in the current year. We also recommend the replacement of a vehicle for the animal control office.
- The budget includes a third School Resource Officer position, funded by the school system, which was added during the current fiscal year.
- The Animal Control budget reflects contracted services with the local SPCA to help operate the animal shelter. The budgeted amount of \$10,000 will pay a portion of a position at the shelter, with the SPCA picking up the rest of the cost. The office and the SPCA have worked together to operate the shelter since May 2010 and the partnership has increased the adoption rate and has provided assistance to the Animal Control officers with their shelter duties.

Revenues and Expenditures Details

Some notes on specific revenues and expenditures in the FY 2012 Budget:

- General property taxes are down \$278,191, or 1.3%
- Local sales taxes are up \$133,252, or 3.7%
- Utility taxes are up \$87,000, or 3.3%
- Transient occupancy taxes are up \$9,000, or 9.9%
- Food and beverage taxes are up \$25,000, or 1.4%
- Miscellaneous revenue is up \$20,000, or 50%, due to the increased sale of recyclables.
- Interest on deposits is down \$52,000, or 17.8%, due to lower interest rates.
- Rent of property revenue is up \$33,000 or 25%, due to new leases with wireless companies on County towers.
- Recreation fees are up \$6,000, or 14%, reflecting increased participation in Parks and Recreation programs.
- School Resource Officer revenue is up 39.9%, reflecting the third officer added in the current year and reimbursed by the school system.
- EMS fees are up 84.2% reflecting operation of the program for a full year and revenue sharing among the rescue squads.
- Reserve funds for the County's share of the CCBC project are budgeted at \$3,333,000

Amendments to the FY 2011 Budget

Thanks in part to the conservative spending habits of our staff, and thanks in part to money budgeted for economic development projects that went unspent, we have money available to address some capital improvement projects in the current budget. By spending that money in the current year, we can keep significant capital and operational expenditures out of the FY 2012 budget.

Staff recommends the following expenditures out of the current year's budget:

- \$9,000 for HVAC repairs to the Martinsville EMS Station
- \$10,000 for replacement of the Novell computer system
- \$11,200 for HVAC repairs to the Animal Control office in Jack Dalton Park
- \$20,000 toward repairs at the jail
- \$20,000 to replace the tennis court lights at Jaycee Park
- \$28,000 toward repairs at the Sheriff's Office administration building

- \$30,000 to replace the vehicle used to transport the inmate work crew
- \$47,000 to upgrade our PBX telephone system
- \$50,000 toward a video visitation system for the jail
- \$395,587 for full- and part-time employees' 1-time stipends

The following capital improvement items are budgeted for the FY 2012 year:

- \$243,200 to replace 8 sheriff's patrol cars
- \$175,000 for fire truck for Dyer's Store Volunteer Fire Department
- \$95,000 for ambulance for Ridgeway Rescue Squad
- \$32,000 to provide match for ambulance grant for Public Safety
- \$30,400 to replace a truck for Animal Control
- \$18,000 for computer upgrades

Outside Agencies

Outside agencies are being recommended for level funding in FY 2012. The only exception involves the Fieldale Sanitary Board and the extra sheriff's office patrols in Fieldale. The Sanitary District Board indicated that it would no longer request the money for extra patrols, which was \$4,691 in FY 2011.

Four new outside agencies requested funding. The four were STEP, the Roanoke River Basin Association, the Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Commission, and the Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society. Staff does not recommend funding any new outside agencies at this time.

Goals and Objectives

The Board held its annual Planning Session in February and produced a list of items that the Board deemed most important to the County's sustainability. Those items were:

- Expansion of New College Institute into a four-year university or a branch campus of an existing four-year university.
- Continued support of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation's efforts including tourism and retail development.
- Continued development of the County's industrial sites.
- Addressing school facilities and infrastructure needs.
- Addressing transportation needs and improvements.
- Endorsing regional cooperation.
- Addressing Community pride/appearance
- Improving the viability of the EMS system
- Addressing needs for jail space
- Continuing to address collection of delinquent taxes.

The Board then came up with several action points for the most pressing items and discussed the best way to move these projects forward. That list was as follows:

- NCI
 - Lobby legislators for support

- Appoint a small support team of County and City staff to assist with any issues
- Encourage local students to enroll at NCI
- EDC
 - Provide products for sale – sites, buildings, infrastructure
 - Provide a good workforce
 - Provide adequate funding
 - Create a retail emphasis
- Industrial parks
 - Get electrical substation and natural gas for Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre
 - Grading and infrastructure improvements for CCBC
 - Grade Lot 2 at Patriot Centre
 - Develop Bryant property and explore funding partners
- School facilities and infrastructure
 - Work toward approval of pending application for \$6 million in school bonds to be spent on Magna Vista HVAC and various roofing projects
 - A community discussion of how to replace Collinsville Primary and John Redd Smith Elementary with one new building, and funding options.
- Transportation improvements/build Interstate 73
 - Review report on alignment alternatives
 - Keep the issue in front of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, the legislature, and the federal government.
 - Ask the Virginia Department of Transportation to mow each median in the County at least once a year.
- Sustainability of the EMS system
 - Address the local match for a new ambulance that may be funded at 80% by a grant.
 - Provide additional maintenance for the facility on Hooker Street.
 - Address future staffing needs.

Looking Ahead

Staff is cautiously optimistic about Henry County's immediate future. As we touted above, the evolution of NCI is the key component in our transformation. The changing economic times have essentially done all the damage they can do to our community; it is time to concentrate on where we are going instead of lamenting where we used to be.

As stated the past several years in this budget message, it is the belief of the County Administrator that this community cannot continue to support at least two of everything. This applies to programs between divisions of the County, the school systems, the Public Service Authority, etc., as well as the City of Martinsville and various non-profits. There needs to be a concentrated effort to reduce redundancy and increase efficiency. The County Administrator also understands that this is easier said than done.

Our economic development efforts, through our partnership with the City of Martinsville and the EDC, bore some fruit in FY 2011. We think more good news is on the way in that area soon. Just as importantly, we have plowed the fields in anticipation of more good news. The Board's foresight in purchasing and prepping CCBC has enabled us to leap ahead of other localities in the Commonwealth. We literally are ready to go to work on grading the CCBC pads and extending utilities to the site, and staff is convinced that CCBC will be another key component in our revitalization.

Our trip back hasn't been smooth, and it isn't over. But for the first time in at least three years, staff feels like the sun is starting to shine just a little bit. Here's hoping we have to break out the sunscreen during the next 12 months.

Mr. Summerlin said the budget is available on the County website and is also available at all four branches of the Blue Ridge Regional Library. Mr. Summerlin reminded the Board of the budget work session scheduled on April 7, 2011 at 5:00 pm in the Fourth Floor Conference Room. Mr. Summerlin requested that the Board review the budget and on Thursday, staff will go through each category and answer any questions. Mr. Summerlin stated that if the Board has any changes to the budget, the Board can discuss them following the public hearing on April 18, 2011.

Advertise FY '11-'12 Budget

Following the presentation, Mr. Adams moved that the Board advertise the FY 2011-'12 Budget on Sunday, April 10, 2011, for a scheduled public hearing on April 18, 2011, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Slaughter moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 5:45 pm, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried to discuss the following:

§2.2-3711(A)5 for Consultation with the County Attorney re: Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to an open meeting at 5:52 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Adams and unanimously carried.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING:

Mr. Hall 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.

No action was taken. There being no further business to discuss Mr. Bryant moved at 5:54 pm that the Board continue the meeting to April 7, 2011 at 5:00 pm, second by Mr. Kendall and unanimously carried.