

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES**

**April 26, 2011 – 3:00 pm**

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on April 26, 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. Adams 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).

- March 22, 2011
- April 5, 2011
- April 7, 2011
- April 11, 2011
- April 18, 2011

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

(Copy included in Board's File).

**Consideration of Resolution Establishing May 6, 2011 as “Fire and Rescue Volunteer Appreciation Day” in Henry County**

(Copy included in Board’s File).

**Consideration of Resolution Establishing May 15-21, 2011 as “National Police Week” in Henry County**

(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.

**ADOPTION OF THE FY 2011-2012 HENRY COUNTY BUDGET**

Mr. Summerlin said adoption of the County Budget is scheduled for today’s meeting and there are four separate motions necessary to adopt the 2012 Budget: setting of tax rates, adoption of School Budget, adoption of Total Budget, and amendments to the FY 2011 County Budget as outlined in the appropriation sheet.

**Setting of Tax Rates**

Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board adopt the following tax rates for FY ’12, seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried 6 to 0.

**Real Estate:** \$.46 per \$100 assessed value.

**Personal Property and Machinery and Tools:** \$1.48 per \$100 of assessed value for personal property, including motor vehicles, and \$1.48 per \$100 of assessed value for machinery and tools/business equipment.

The effective rate is the nominal rate times the assessment ratio, which results in the following effective rates:

Machinery/Tools/Business Equipment	Year 1	97%
	Year 2	87%
	Year 3	77%
	Year 4	67%
	Year 5/till disposed	57%

**Personal Property Tax Relief:** The effective reimbursement rate for the Personal Property Tax Relief Act on a qualifying vehicle is 49 percent.

**School Budget Adoption**

Mr. Adams moved that the Board adopt the proposed budget for school expenditures for FY ’12 by category as summarized in Exhibits A and B, subject to the state, federal, and local funds becoming available as estimated, seconded by Mr. Kendall. The motion carried 6 to 0.

## **Total Budget**

Mr. Adams moved that the Board adopt the proposed FY '12 Budget for fiscal planning purposes as summarized in Exhibits A and B, seconded by Mr. Vaughn. The motion carried 6 to 0.

## **Amendments to FY 2011 County Budget**

Mr. Vaughn moved to approve the amendments to the FY 2011 County Budget as outlined in the appropriation sheet, with unexpended items carried over to the FY 2012 budget, seconded by Mr. Slaughter. The motion carried 6 to 0.

(A Copy of Exhibit A, Expenditures by Cost Centers, Exhibit B, Revenues by Funds, and Additional Appropriation Sheet included in Board's File).

## **REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS**

Mr. Scott Grindstaff reviewed the monthly reports on delinquent tax collection efforts. Mr. Grindstaff noted that decal sales were comparable to the prior year. Mr. Grindstaff said Mr. Rife with TACS was in the office today and will be at next month's meeting to give an update. Mr. Rife reported that he had received over 100 payments totaling \$93,489 due to the delinquent property sale advertisements placed back in October, with 39 paying in full and 13 setting up a repayment plan. Mr. Rife also reported that he had issued 65 liens and received payments of \$35,000 from those liens. In addition, Mr. Rife has an additional 180 properties to be advertised in May. Mr. Bryant asked for a copy of those properties.

## **CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING FOR FY 2012 FOR THE PIEDMONT AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT (PART) BUS SYSTEM**

Mr. Summerlin said the Piedmont Area Regional Transit system, or PART, has been in place in Martinsville and Henry County since January 2009. The fixed-loop bus system transported 1,325 riders in March 2011, up more than 30% over March 2010. PART is funded by federal, state, and local money, and Henry County's share of the funding was \$13,326 in 2010 as part of an overall budget of about \$234,000. However, funding from the Commonwealth's Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) 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 share of the local funding for FY 2012 would be \$23,700, out of a total budget of \$220,000. Based on current spending levels, it appears that \$12,000 in budgeted PART funds will remain at the end of FY 2011. An additional \$11,700 could come from the Board's Contingency Fund to reach the \$23,700 funding level for FY 2012.

Mr. Hall said staff was originally told by DRPT that the entire \$55,000 for the second of two buses was going to be cut, but staff worked with Danny Marshall and Don Merricks to reinstate half; so Mr. Hall said he would not be surprised if all funding for the second bus is discontinued at some point in the future.

Mr. Adams asked where most of the ridership originates from in the County. Mr. Hall said Patrick Henry Community College and Walmart are the two largest stops. Ms. Buchanan said funding has always been a concern but she feels with the current economy, we need to continue to make this service available to our citizens. Mr. Hall said the most recent ridership numbers showed almost 1,500 riders, the second largest month since the program started in 2009. Mr. Slaughter said the price of fuel will probably affect overall cost as well. Mr. Vaughn asked if the rate is comparable to other systems. Mr. Hall stated yes, it is comparable to Covington; the fee started out at \$1.00 and it was lowered to \$.50. Mr. Hall said he has gotten on the bus a couple of times just to talk to people and most indicated they take the bus mainly to go to doctor appointments, the mall, or Walmart and if they did not have the bus, it would place a hardship on them.

Mr. Bryant moved that the Board fund Henry County's share of the PART budget, including appropriation of \$11,700 from the current year's Contingency Fund, contingent on the City of Martinsville also funding its share. The motion was seconded by Mr. Slaughter and carried 6 to 0.

#### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: NEIGHBORHOOD "GUN BUY-BACK PROGRAM" – SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Sheriff Lane Perry introduced Darrell Hairston and Garrett Dillard, representatives of the D-Truth Foundation. Sheriff Perry said Mr. Hairston and Mr. Dillard approached him about partnering on a "gun buy-back" program in the community. The group organized a basketball game which was held in March and raised \$5,000 to kick off the initiative. Ms. Buchanan thanked Mr. Hairston and Mr. Dillard for their involvement in the community. Dr. Anthony Jackson said he would also like to recognize Mr. Dillard as the new principal at Bassett High School.

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the appropriation as requested, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and unanimously carried.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING THE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL ALLIANCE**

Mr. Mark Heath explained that the Southern Virginia Regional Alliance (SVRA) is a joint venture among the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the Future of the Piedmont Foundation, the cities of Danville and Martinsville, and the counties of Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania. The SVRA will work to identify targeted industry sectors for economic development within the area served by the individual localities and to design and implement a program to market the region to those targeted industry sectors. The Memorandum of Understanding outlines SVRA's operation and the amount of money each locality will contribute toward its funding. Henry County's contribution of \$23,821 for FY 2011 and \$23,821 for FY 2012 will be paid by the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Vaughn discussed the Southern Virginia Economic Development Partnership that was developed by the governor's office in 1996. Mr. Vaughn said the partnership only lasted about four years with one of the biggest pitfalls being the 32+ member

board. Mr. Heath said the SVRA will not be managed in that manner; it will consist of a five-member board, one representative from each of the jurisdictions.

Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the SVRA, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried.

### **MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Mr. Mark Heath, President of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, was present to make the monthly update to the Board. Mr. Heath reviewed a summary of activities by division (Copy included in Board's File). Mr. Heath said the EDC is working with a total of 18 projects, including 10 active projects. Mr. Heath reported that Martinsville-Henry County ranked fourth in the state in the number of new jobs announced from April 2010 to April 2011.

Mr. Bryant asked how many of the applicants at the ICF job fair were from the area vs. out of town. Mr. Heath said he could not say.

### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: FOUR-FOR-LIFE FUNDS – PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mr. Dale Wagoner requested that the Board appropriate the annual "Four-For-Life" allocation from the Commonwealth to the local rescue squads. This year's allocation is \$54,334.75. Mr. Wagoner said last year, \$5,000.00 of the fund was used to initiate a "central supply" system to increase purchasing power and reduce costs to the rescue squads, and the five squads then received equal shares of \$8,206 each. Mr. Wagoner recommends that this year's amount be divided equally among the six entities – the five rescue squads and the Department of Public Safety. Each entity would receive \$9,055.74 to be used for EMS training, equipment, and supplies. Mr. Wagoner said Public Safety will use the funds to continue to provide quality education programs and to offset some of the costs of EMS supplies used by the supplemental career staff.

Mr. Kendall made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as requested, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried 6 to 0.

### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: EMS TRAINING FUNDS**

Mr. Dale Wagoner requested that the Board appropriate \$4,699.82 from the Virginia Office of EMS for reimbursement of EMS-related training expenses. Mr. Wagoner said the funds are reimbursement of expenses from programs previously conducted by his staff and no local match is required.

Mr. Bryant moved to approve the additional appropriation as requested, seconded by Mr. Kendall and unanimously carried.

### **AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: REPLACEMENT VEHICLE FOR INMATE CLEANUP CREW**

Mr. Summerlin stated that in FY 2011 Henry County partnered with the City of Martinsville to use an inmate work crew from the City for roadside cleanup in Henry County. Mr. Summerlin said we have used a surplus van to transport the crew to work sites, but that van has served its useful life. As part of the FY 2012 budget process, staff recommended purchasing a replacement vehicle with available FY 2011 funds. The Board approved that request earlier today when it adopted the FY 2012 Budget. Mr. Summerlin said staff issued a Request for Proposals for a 4x4 extended cab pickup truck to replace the van and the low bid was \$32,066 for a Ford F250 diesel from Haley Auto Mall.

Mr. Slaughter moved to award the contract to Haley Auto Mall in the amount of \$32,066 as outlined, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0.

### **AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: REPAIRS TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND COUNTY JAIL**

Mr. Summerlin said in the additional appropriations for the FY 2011 Budget approved earlier in this meeting, staff had budgeted \$28,000 for repairs to the Sheriff's Office building and \$20,000 for repairs to the Henry County Jail. Mr. Summerlin said bids were solicited and the low bid was from Allied Roofing Company in the amount of \$38,100 for work at the Sheriff's Office (\$29,780) and the County Jail (\$8,320).

Mr. Bryant made a motion to award the contract to Allied Roofing in the amount of \$38,100, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and unanimously carried.

### **AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT'S VIRTUAL CLUSTER PROJECT**

Mr. Christian Youngblood requested that the Board award a contract in the amount of \$54,669.01 to Dell Computers for work on the County's "3-Node Virtual Cluster Project." Mr. Youngblood said this project will enable Henry County to upgrade our core computer operations to a Microsoft network with a new email system. It also will allow the County to save on future hardware needs and will reduce the number of computer servers from 19 to 3. Mr. Youngblood said Dell Computers was one of five bids on the project. Mr. Summerlin said funding for this project will come from previously unexpended funds in the current budget and an additional budget appropriation of \$10,000 that the Board approved earlier in today's meeting.

Mr. Kendall moved to award the contract to Dell Computers as requested, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried 6 to 0.

### **AWARD OF CONTRACT – SOUTH STREET HOUSING REHABILITATION PROJECT**

Mr. Summerlin said the South Street Housing Rehabilitation Board reviewed and approved the low bid from Heritage Home Improvement in the amount of \$67,850 for the rehabilitation of a four-unit apartment building. Mr. Summerlin said the building is located at 96 Pleasant Ridge, Bassett, and is owned by Eldon Moore. Mr. Summerlin said the project will be funded with CDBG funds.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion to award the contract to Heritage Home Improvement in the amount of \$67,850 for the rehabilitation of 96 Pleasant Ridge, seconded by Mr. Adams and unanimously carried.

### **TRANSFER APPROPRIATION RE: COMPLETION OF ONGOING PROJECTS – SCHOOL BOARD**

Mr. Summerlin said the Henry County School Board is requesting approval of several transfer appropriations within its current budget. According to Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson, these transfers, totaling \$935,200, are necessary to complete several ongoing projects. The funds would be transferred from the Instruction category of the FY 2011 Budget to the Administration, Attendance & Health, Technology, Transportation, Facilities, and Debt Services categories.

Mr. Adams moved to approve the transfer appropriation as requested, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and carried 6 to 0.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

#### **Comments from the Board**

Board members discussed the litter problem in Henry County. Mr. Slaughter said he has been approached by numerous citizens concerning litter and while the inmate work crew is doing an excellent job, more needs to be done, whether it is more enforcement, more convictions, more education, or a combination of everything. Mr. Slaughter said litter does not seem to be as big an issue in other areas. Mr. Bryant said he is on the Crimestoppers Board and they had discussed partnering with the County, possibly installing anti-litter signs. Ms. Buchanan said citizens who witness someone littering must be willing to testify and maybe a campaign encouraging those citizens to come forward would be helpful. Mr. Bryant said Crimestoppers would pay a reward to those citizens who turn someone in for littering. Mr. Kendall stated that litter is also detrimental to economic development in the area. Mr. Vaughn said the Board started an anti-litter initiative in 2007-'08 in an effort to change people's mindset on litter. Mr. Hall said education in the schools and organized trash pick-ups were coordinated, but the committee lacked funding and volunteers; along with VDOT regulation changes, the program basically became cost prohibitive. Mr. Hall said a "no litter" sign costs about \$250. Mr. Bryant asked why the signage is so expensive and Mr. Summerlin explained that VDOT has regulations on where and how signs must be installed. In addition, Mr. Summerlin said VDOT has outsourced some of their signage to private agencies which charge outrageous prices. Mr. Slaughter said signs are useless without enforcement. Mr. Vaughn said this issue remains on the Board's legislative agenda.

Ms. Buchanan said she had a Horsepasture District community meeting last week. Ms. Buchanan reminded everyone of the Fieldale Heritage Festival on May 21. Mr. Slaughter said there is also going to be a sock hop following the festival.

### **CLOSED MEETING**

Mr. Adams moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 4:05 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 Park and Recreation Board, Blue Ridge Regional Library Board, Community Policy and Management Team, Henry-Martinsville Social Services Board, Patrick Henry Community College Board, Piedmont Regional Community Services Board, Southern Area Agency on Aging, Southside Community Action Board, and West Piedmont Business Development Center.
- 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.

#### **OPEN MEETING:**

The Board returned to an open meeting at 5:37 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Bryant 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.

**Henry-Martinsville Social Services Board** – Mr. Slaughter made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Ben Meador to a four-year term beginning June 1, 2011, seconded by Mr. Bryant and carried 6 to 0.

The Board recessed its meeting at 5:38 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.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING R-11-02 – MARK SPENCER**

Mr. Lee Clark said the property is located at 1770 Crestview Drive in the Blackberry District and is shown on Tax Map 14.8/184D. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 2.02-acres from Suburban Residential District S-R to Neighborhood Commercial District B-2. The applicant intends to construct a building on

the property that will be used as a meat processing business and to create a residence on the second floor. Following a public hearing, both the Planning Commission and staff recommend approval of this request.

Ms. Buchanan opened the public hearing at 6:02 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 6:02. Mr. Adams moved that the Board follow the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the rezoning request, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and unanimously carried.

Ms. Buchanan announced that VDOT is holding a public hearing on the Six-Year Secondary Road Plan from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the #1 meeting room if anyone would like to attend.

In addition, Mr. Summerlin said the public hearing considering the redistricting of Henry County magisterial districts will be deferred to the May meeting due to an error in advertising.

### **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION HONORING RIDGEWAY RESCUE SQUAD ON ITS 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Mr. Vaughn said the Ridgeway Rescue Squad is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary and read aloud a resolution in honor of the squad and its current and former members.

Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0. Mr. Darren Lockridge and Mr. Jason Stern were present to accept the resolution.

### **MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Liz Stone, Henry County Registrar, stated she would like to go on record that she had nothing to do with the proposed redistricting plan and that she was not responsible for the mistake in advertising the public hearing.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE HENRY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

Mr. Summerlin said the Henry County School System is seeking the issuance of general obligation school bonds in the estimated maximum principal amount of \$3,400,000. The purpose of the proposed bonds is to finance capital projects for public schools, including the HVAC upgrade at Magna Vista High School. A public hearing is necessary in order to move forward with the project.

Ms. Buchanan opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, the hearing was closed at 6:08. Mr. Bryant moved that the Board approve the bond resolution as presented, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2011 COUNTY BUDGET FOR SCHOOL BONDS**

Mr. Summerlin said this agenda item is related to the previous item regarding bonds for capital upgrades for the Henry County School System. Mr. Summerlin said since \$3.4 million is greater than 1% of the total budget, a public hearing is required.

Ms. Buchanan opened the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 6:10 p.m. Mr. Adams moved that the Board approve the budget amendment as required, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and carried 6 to 0.

### **CONSIDERATION OF PRIORITY LIST FOR COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD AND SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND MAY 12, 2011 MEETING**

Mr. Summerlin said the Commonwealth Transportation Board will hold four meetings statewide to receive input on the Fiscal Year 2012-2017 Six-Year Improvement Program, including highway, rail, and public transportation initiatives. The public hearing closest to Henry County is set for Salem at 6 p.m. on May 12, 2011. It will be held in the VDOT Salem District Auditorium at 731 Harrison Avenue in Salem. Written comments also may be submitted, either at the meeting or via mail or email. Staff has prepared a suggested list of items for inclusion from Henry County.

Mr. Vaughn moved to adopt the proposed priority list and submit a letter to the CTB for the meeting on May 12, seconded by Mr. Adams and unanimously carried.

### **CONSIDERATION OF REVENUE-SHARING PROGRAM, FY 2011-2012**

Mr. Summerlin said the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) annually funds a Revenue Sharing Program for the construction, maintenance, or improvement of primary and secondary roads in counties. The Commonwealth provides funds to match local funds. Henry County discontinued participation in this program in FY 2001-02 due to fiscal constraints and staff does not recommend participating in the program this year either.

Mr. Adams moved that the Board not participate in the revenue-sharing program in the next fiscal year, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0.

Ms. Buchanan recessed the meeting at 6:12 p.m. until the VDOT public hearing concluded at 6:30.

Ms. Buchanan reconvened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – SIX-YEAR SECONDARY ROAD PLAN, OPEN FORMAT, 6 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M. (MEETING ROOM #1 – RIGHT SIDE)**

Ms. Lisa Hughes said she had about 10 people sign up to speak, but there was some confusion and everyone was interested in the Preston Road project. Ms. Hughes said there would be a separate public hearing for that probably in August.

Ms. Buchanan opened the public hearing on the Six-Year Secondary Road Plan at 6:33 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 6:33 p.m. Ms. Hughes will present any changes to the document at the May 24 meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Adams moved to adjourn at 6:33 p.m., seconded by Mr. Slaughter and carried 6 to 0.