

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

Organizational Meeting January 3, 2011 – 3:00 pm

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its organizational meeting on January 3, 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: Debra Buchanan, Chairman; H. G. Vaughn, Vice Chairman; Jim Adams, Tommy Slaughter, Joe Bryant and Milton Kendall.

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/Public Information Officer.

Also present were Debbie Hall and Mike Wray of the Martinsville Bulletin; Ron Morris of B-99; and Sheriff Lane Perry.

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Buchanan called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. She stated 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. Anyone who wishes 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.

Mr. Adams moved that the County Administrator chair the meeting during the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and unanimously carried.

Mr. Summerlin reviewed the procedures for nomination of Chairman and Vice Chairman and noted that nominations do not require a second.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2011

Mr. Summerlin opened the floor for nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Adams nominated Debra Buchanan. There being no further nominations the floor was closed for office of Chairman.

The vote carried 5-0. Ms. Buchanan abstained.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2011

Mr. Summerlin opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Ms. Buchanan nominated Mr. Vaughn. There being no further nominations the floor was closed for office of Vice Chairman. The vote carried unanimously.

Mr. Summerlin congratulated Ms. Buchanan and Mr. Vaughn on their re-election as Chairman and Vice Chairman and turned the meeting over to Chairman Buchanan.

SETTING OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2011

Ms. Buchanan said a proposed calendar of meeting dates for 2011 was included in the Board's working papers. The dates are based on the schedule of meeting every fourth Tuesday, with the exception of December as to avoid the holidays. Following is the proposed dates:

Meeting Dates

January 25
February 22
March 22
April 26
May 24
June 28
July 26
August 23
September 27
October 25
November 22
December 13

Deadline for Agenda Items

January 18
February 15
March 15
April 19
May 17
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 6

Mr. Kendall moved that the Board approve the proposed Board Meeting Dates for 2011, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried.

ADOPTION OF 2011 BOARD BYLAWS

Mr. Summerlin stated the Board traditionally adopts bylaws each year at its annual organizational meeting. A copy of the existing bylaws adopted January 7, 2010, is included in the Board's package. (Copy included in Board's File).

Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board approve the Bylaws as presented, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried.

CONSIDERATION OF A DATE FOR THE BOARD’S ANNUAL PLANNING SESSION

Mr. Summerlin stated each year, the Board holds an annual Planning Session usually in late January or early February at the Public Safety Building. He stated the Planning Session will be facilitated by Diane Akers with ComBiz Solutions.

Mr. Kendall moved to schedule the Planning Session on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 3:00 pm at the Public Safety Building, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried.

CONSIDERATION OF INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO LEVERAGE GRANT FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COMMONWEALTH CROSSING BUSINESS CENTRE

Mr. Mark Heath, President and CEO of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, was present to address the Board on a funding plan for Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre (CCBC). To be competitive for industrial recruitment, a variety of sites is necessary. Currently, the Martinsville-Henry County area lacks larger tracts, particularly with access to rail. With this in mind, Henry County has partnered with the City of Martinsville, the EDC and many other entities to develop the CCBC, which will provide large building sites with access to rail service. So far \$9.4 million has been secured for acquisition, engineering, water and sewer extension, and environmental processes for development of CCBC. Of this amount, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) announced an award of \$1.5 million for grading at the site. The money must be used within two years.

In order to identify and leverage funding sources for grading of the site, officials recently met with representatives of the Tobacco Commission. The Tobacco Commission asked if Martinsville-Henry County could take \$5 million in funds and leverage the money into \$10 million from local partners for CCBC. This would result in a total of \$16.5 million, which would be adequate to prepare lots 1 and 2 at CCBC. Tobacco Commission staff has recommended to its Board that this \$5 million be distributed to Martinsville-Henry County, contingent on the \$10 million in local funding. The Tobacco Commission is scheduled to vote on this matter in January.

With this offer, it is incumbent on the localities to work toward the remaining \$10 million. Based on previous agreements, it would be logical for Henry County and Martinsville to divide the local governments’ share of this money. If the localities could commit to a total of \$5 million, the breakdown would be:

▪ Henry County	\$3,333,300
▪ City of Martinsville	\$1,666,700
TOTAL	\$5,000,000

In addition, a request was made of the Harvest Foundation for \$5 million and has been approved by its Board, contingent on all parties specified above putting in the specified amounts. When all contributions are added up, the \$16.5 million needed to grade lots 1 and 2 at CCBC is achieved:

▪ VEDP	\$1,500,000
▪ Tobacco Commission	\$5,000,000
▪ Harvest Foundation	\$5,000,000
▪ City of Martinsville	\$1,666,700
▪ Henry County	\$3,333,300
TOTAL	\$16,500,000

How would this project benefit Henry County?

- Approximately 200 acres of shovel-ready land for a “mega project” would be prepared. In the Commonwealth, this would be the only large site, under local government control, with a master plan that is ready for action.
- We would be positioned to recruit companies that need large sites with rail access, which we cannot do now.
- A locality with a shovel-ready site is attractive to potential employers because of the condensed lead time.
- There is potential for a large number of jobs and diversified employment.

City Council will consider a similar request for the City’s participation at its meeting today.

Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board participate in this project and direct the County Administrator to include the County’s contribution of \$3,333,300 from the County’s uncommitted fund balance in the FY 2012 County Budget and subsequent budgets based on the projected timeline of 24-30 months; and approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Martinsville, seconded by Mr. Kendall and unanimously carried.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Adams moved to adjourn at 3:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Kendall and unanimously carried.