

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES**

**March 26, 2013 – 3:00 pm**

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on March 26, 2013, at 3:00 pm in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia. The following Board members were present: Chairman Jim Adams, Vice-Chairman Tommy Slaughter, Debra Buchanan, H.G. Vaughn, Milton Kendall, and Joe Bryant.

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

Deputy Mike Hooper and Lt. Eric Hairston of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Debbie Hall of the Martinsville Bulletin, Ron Morris of B99, and Kip Wallace of WBTW.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mr. Vaughn gave the invocation and Mr. Bryant led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. He 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, 2013
- March 12, 2013

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

(Copy included in Board's File).

**Proclamation Establishing April 2013 as "Fair Housing Month" in Henry County**

(Copy included in Board's File).

**Consideration of Resolution in Honor of the Axton Lifesaving Crew, Inc. on its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

(Copy included in Board's File).

**Proclamation Establishing April 2013 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in Henry County**

Ms. Buchanan read the proclamation aloud and she and Mr. Vaughn presented it to Ms. Sandy Dawson with Citizens Against Family Violence. (Copy included in Board's File).

Ms. Buchanan moved the Items of Consent be adopted, seconded by Mr. Slaughter. The motion carried 6 to 0.

**INTRODUCTION OF RICK WARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE BLUE RIDGE REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM**

Mr. Hall said Rick Ward, the newly appointed Executive Director of the Blue Regional Library System, requested time on the agenda to introduce himself to the Board. Mr. Ward said he is a native of Patrick County and has served as the interim executive director of the Blue Ridge Library System for the past eight months. Mr. Ward said prior to that, he was branch manager at the Patrick County library. Mr. Ward said he hopes to make the library system a bigger part of the community and looks forward to working with Board.

**CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING APRIL 2013 AS "CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH" IN HENRY COUNTY**

Mr. Hall said the Martinsville-Henry County Exchange Club requested the Board establish April 2013 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Henry County.

Mr. Kendall read the proclamation aloud and moved the Board adopt it as presented, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried. Michelle Stone-Agee was present to accept the proclamation.

**REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS**

Mr. Scott Grindstaff was not present at today's meeting but his monthly reports on delinquent tax collection efforts were included in the Board's working papers.

Ms. Buchanan commented that several people have indicated they did not receive paperwork for their decals. Mr. Hall said they are aware of the issue and are advising anyone who did not receive the necessary paperwork to please call the Treasurer's office. Mr. Hall said the mailing was done by an outside vendor.

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

Ms. Lisa Fultz, Director of the EDC's Small, Minority & Entrepreneurial Division, was present to provide an update to the Board on the new retail initiative. Ms. Fultz distributed a handout illustrating the new retail portal and community profile on its website that includes a snapshot of demographics in the community that retailers may be interested in. (Copy included in Board's File). Ms. Fultz said the retail portal is part of the EDC's efforts to focus on complementing existing commercial developers rather than competing with them. Ms. Fultz said the community profile contains information such as traffic counts for particular arterial/intersection sites, existing retail, and other data that will be more relevant to retailers.

### **CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRE AND EMS STUDY**

Mr. Hall said in December, the Virginia Fire Services Board presented the results of the Fire and EMS Study for Henry County. During the Board's recent planning session, Rodney Howell offered several recommendations for moving forward with improvements in fire and emergency medical services delivery and in February, the Board amended the County code to create the fire division within the Department of Public Safety and to recognize the authority of the Public Safety Director.

Mr. Hall said now, as suggested by the study, Mr. Howell is recommending the Board to formally create the Emergency Services Advisory Council (ESAC). The purpose of the group will be to advise County staff and the Board on matters related to fire and EMS and to assist with the implementation of county-wide procedures, policies and practices. Mr. Howell is suggesting that the council be composed of one representative from each volunteer fire and rescue department, be chaired by the Public Safety Director, and assigned these initial tasks:

- 1) Develop a strategic plan for Fire and EMS, including a common mission and vision.
- 2) Develop a reasonable apparatus list that will adequately meet service delivery demands.
- 3) Develop a comprehensive capital improvements plan.
- 4) Develop county-wide standard operating procedures, including minimum responder and officer standards.

Mr. Howell answered some general questions from the Board and said the committee would provide periodic updates to the Board with the first update occurring within six months.

Mr. Kendall made a motion the Board approve the creation of the Emergency Services Advisory Council as outlined, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and carried 6 to 0.

## **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: HARVEST GRANT – PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Hall said Roger Adams is asking the Board to accept and appropriate a Harvest Foundation grant in the amount of \$10,000 to be used to improve the access road to the lower field at the Smith River Sports Complex River Access Point.

Mr. Bryant moved the Board accept and appropriate the grant funds in the amount of \$10,000, seconded by Ms. Buchanan and unanimously carried.

## **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: EMS TRAINING FUNDS – PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mr. Hall said Rodney Howell is asking the Board to make an additional appropriation of \$2,796.31 from the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services and other individuals for the reimbursement of expenses from programs previously conducted by the Department of Public Safety. There is no local match required.

Ms. Buchanan made a motion the Board approve the additional appropriation as outlined, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0.

## **REQUEST TO RETAIN FY 2012 CARRY-OVER FUNDS – SCHOOL BOARD**

Mr. Hall said Dr. Jared Cotton is asking the Board for permission for the School Board to retain \$1,935,261 in carry-over funds from the FY 2012 budget. Mr. Hall said this item was on the Board's February agenda and deferred until this month. That was so additional work could be done on the FY 2014 Budget before the Board committed to taking the money out of its fund balance. According to Dr. Cotton, the vast majority of his request - \$1,490,982 – would be used for capital projects, and the remainder would be used for the School Board's continuing obligation toward its Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) expenditures.

Mr. Hall said staff recommends that the capital items totaling \$1,490,982 be funded from the carry-over amount and that the School Board be allowed to use \$228,447 of the carry-over for its OPEB needs, which should be enough to meet that obligation through FY 2014-15. Therefore the total recommended for the School Board carry-over is \$1,719,429. Staff also recommends that \$100,000 of the total carry-over amount be used to fund the County's OPEB obligations through FY '15, which would place the School Board and the County on the same plateau.

Mr. Vaughn moved the Board approve the School Board request for carry-over funds in the amount of \$1,490,982 for capital projects and \$228,447 for OPEB expenditures; and \$100,000 of the total carry-over amount be used to fund the County's OPEB obligations. Ms. Buchanan seconded the motion and approved 6 to 0.

## **Award of Contracts re: Philpott Marina Project**

Mr. Hall said County staff has worked for several months on the Philpott Marina bid process. Bids were opened February 19, in three categories: marina dock and concession building construction; electrical service; and group campground upgrades. The bid totals were higher than expected and above budget. Mr. Hall said after staff

reviewed those bids, it was decided to take the first category of marina dock and concession building construction and re-bid that work. It was broken down into five bids: dock/floating platform; concessions building; plumbing improvements; electrical at the marina; and gas fuel system. The low bids in each category were as follows:

- Contract 1 – Marina Structure
  - Dock/floating platform – Cornerstone General Contracting, \$442,480
  - Concession building – Norris Construction, \$110,700
  - Plumbing – Prillaman and Pace, \$70,000
  - Electrical – Light Electric, \$71,359
  - Gas fuel system – M.L. Leonard, \$137,158.17
- Contract 2 – Utilities extension
  - Steve Martin’s Trenching, \$215,370
- Contract 3 – Group Campground
  - Prillaman and Pace, \$184,775
- Total of All Contracts:
  - Contract 1           \$831,697.17
  - Contract 2           \$215,370.00
  - Contract 3           \$184,775.00

**TOTAL COST:                   \$1,231,842.17**

Mr. Hall said each of the companies listed as a low bidder is a local company with the exception of Cornerstone General Contracting, which is based in Henderson, NC.

Mr. Hall said along with these bids, there are other items that the County would need to secure the closer we get to the project’s completion. These include food concessions/equipment; HVAC equipment for the concessions building; security and monitoring system; gangway end pier; and outdoor dock furniture. Staff anticipates these purchases would add roughly \$70,000 to the final tab. Along with a small contingency fund, the final price tag is estimated at \$1,354,109.

Mr. Hall outlined funding commitments so far: \$400,000 from Henry County; \$250,000 from the Harvest Foundation; and \$150,000 from the Martinsville-Henry County EDC. That leaves a funding gap of roughly \$550,000. Mr. Hall said staff has worked to close that gap by requesting permission from The Harvest Foundation to shift \$168,138 of its money left over from the extension of water and sewer lines to the Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre property line. We have received tentative approval of that action, pending completion of an official request and paperwork. Henry County also has \$110,971 left over from that project that also could be shifted to this project.

Mr. Hall said with that action, a gap of \$275,000 would remain. It is staff’s recommendation that this gap be closed by using \$75,000 from the Board of Supervisors’ FY 2013 contingency fund (which currently sits at \$89,400) and an additional \$200,000 from the County’s fund balance.

Mr. Hall said the Philpott Marina is going to be a vital amenity for our community and region, and it is staff’s belief that this project is essential to our tourism efforts and quality of life.

Mr. Bryant said he was shocked at the additional cost to build the marina. Mr. Bryant said he has supported the concept of the marina from the beginning but is concerned about the upcoming budget and estimated \$660,000 drop in county revenues due to reassessments. Tim Pace explained that the change in location likely was the biggest reason for the cost increase because the marina and some other buildings must be constructed on the water. Mr. Hall said the only way to decrease the amount of funding needed for the marina is to eliminate amenities such as the group campground. Mr. Vaughn said the campground would be the only one on the lake with full utility hook-ups and likely would provide the most return on investment.

Mr. Kendall said he has never supported the marina project because he does not think the county should get involved in the marina business.

After continued discussion, Mr. Slaughter made a motion the Board award the contracts for the marina and approve the various funding sources as outlined, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and carried 4 to 2. Mr. Bryant and Mr. Kendall voted in opposition.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **Comments from the Board**

Mr. Vaughn said there was an excellent turnout for the grand opening of Northwest TrueValue Hardware on Saturday and he hopes the community will support them. Mr. Vaughn also reminded everyone of the race next weekend.

Ms. Buchanan said she will be having a community meeting on April 16 at 7 pm at the Horsepasture Ruritan Club. Also, Ms. Buchanan noted the new Dollar General in Horsepasture opened last week.

Mr. Slaughter said he attended the dedication of the Legacy Courtyard for Benny Summerlin at the Smith River Sports Complex. Mr. Slaughter said it was a fitting gesture to recognize Benny as the complex was a vision of his from the beginning.

Mr. Hall reminded the Board of the budget presentation on April 2 at 5 pm and of the budget work session scheduled for April 4 at 5 pm.

## **CLOSED MEETING**

Ms. Buchanan moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 4:14 p.m., seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried to discuss the following.

- 1) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the West Piedmont Planning District Commission.
- 2) §2.2-3711(A)7 for Discussion of Pending Legal Matters.
- 3) §2.2-3711(A)3 for Discussion of the Acquisition/Disposal of Real Estate.
- 4) §2.2-3711(A)5 for Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries.

## **OPEN MEETING**

The Board returned to an open meeting at 5:06 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Ms. Buchanan and unanimously carried.

## **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING:**

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

West Piedmont Planning District Commission – Mr. Vaughn moved the Board reappoint Wesley George to a four-year term ending April 30, 2017, seconded by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried.

Refund of Personal Property Taxes – Mr. Bryant made a motion the Board refund \$2,439.19 to Terry and Sandra Dalton for overpayment of personal property taxes, seconded by Mr. Vaughn and carried 6 to 0.

Mr. Adams recessed at 5:08 p.m. until the 6:00 evening meeting.

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

Mr. Adams recognized two members of Boy Scout Troop 166 of Collinsville, Lucas Draper and Garrett Cooper, for having recently attained the achievement of Eagle Scout. Mr. Adams presented both young men with a commendation letter from the Board.

## **PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SUBMITTAL OF A COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT REQUEST TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (VDHCD) FOR THE SOUTH STREET NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – PHASE 2**

Ms. Mary Ann Mason said through the utilization of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Henry County has undertaken a study of community improvement needs for Phase 2 of the South Street neighborhood in the Bassett community. Through this planning grant process, the County has developed plans for submittal of a Community Improvement Grant (CIG) application to the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development (VDHCD) to make improvements identified by a needs assessment and public input. VDHCD requires that two public hearings be held during this process – the first public hearing was held on February 19, 2013 and the second public hearing is scheduled to be held at today's meeting.

Ms. Mason said in conjunction with the second public hearing, the Board is also being presented with a resolution of support to approve the submittal of the Community Improvement Grant application.

Ms. Mason explained the grant application has been designed to accomplish the following project activities: Housing rehabilitation of 22 low-to-moderate (LMI) income residential units to include: 12 owner-occupied single-family units, six tenant-occupied single-family units, and one multi-family unit containing four apartments. In addition, two dilapidated structures have been identified for demolition.

Ms. Mason said additional project activities which are currently under construction and are funded through Phase 1 of the South Street Neighborhood Improvement Project include replacement of water and sewer lines, installation of storm water drainage, and road improvements to Elm Street.

Ms. Mason said the estimated cost of this project is \$1,311,350, with funding from the CDBG in the amount of \$993,020; \$206,300 in leverage provided by the VA Dept of Emergency Management grant for Phase 1; \$1,200 of in-kind contribution from Henry County for waived building permit fees; and \$110,830 in additional funding sources and grant funds.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:10 pm. There being no one present who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 6:11 pm. Mr. Slaughter moved the Board adopt the resolution of support authorizing the submittal of the Community Improvement Grant application, seconded by Ms. Buchanan and unanimously carried.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

#### **GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS**

Mr. Lisa Hughes, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, was present to update the Board on General Highway Matters.

Ms. Hughes said she would like to schedule the public hearing for the Six-Year Secondary Road Plan for the May 28 meeting. Ms. Hughes said the pending transportation legislation will mean additional funding for transportation but probably not until 2017. Ms. Hughes said funding the first few years will be dedicated to paving projects.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:15 pm, seconded by Ms. Buchanan and carried 6 to 0.