

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES**

February 25, 2014 – 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on February 25, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia. The following Board members were present: Chairman H.G. Vaughn, Vice-Chairman Tommy Slaughter, Debra Buchanan, Jim Adams, 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; Susan Reynolds, Director of Human Resources.

Deputy Mike Hooper and Lt. Troy Easter of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present was Ben Williams of the Martinsville Bulletin and Ron Morris of B99.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Hall gave the invocation and Ms. Buchanan led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Vaughn 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 p.m. 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 p.m. 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

- January 28, 2014
- January 31, 2014
- February 6, 2014

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File

Resolution Recognizing Fontaine Ruritan's 60th Anniversary

Copy included in Board's File

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

PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY DAY IN HENRY COUNTY

Ms. Buchanan read aloud a proclamation declaring March 22, 2014 as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Day in Henry County. The Martinsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority will host the regional Founders Day Celebration with over 200 members representing chapters from Blacksburg, Charlottesville, Danville, Farmville, Lynchburg, Martinsville and Roanoke attending the celebration to be held at the Quality Inn/Dutch Inn in Collinsville. On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously adopted the proclamation.

Ms. Brenell Thomas and Ms. Joyce Staples were present to accept the proclamation on behalf of the sorority. Ms. Thomas thanked the Board for acknowledging the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and its service to the community.

CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING MARCH 2014 AS "AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH" IN HENRY COUNTY

Mr. Adams read aloud a proclamation declaring March 2014 as "American Red Cross Month" in Henry County. On a motion by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously adopted the proclamation. Ralph Lawson with the American Red Cross was present to receive the proclamation.

APPROVAL OF THE BOARD'S PRIORITIES FOR 2014

Mr. Hall said at the planning session on February 6, the Board discussed priorities for 2014; staff consolidated the various items into one concise list for consideration by the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Kendall and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved the priority list for 2014 as presented.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Scott Grindstaff reviewed the monthly reports on delinquent tax collection efforts. Mr. Grindstaff noted that 88.9% of 2013 personal property taxes have been collected; 88.66% of 2013 real estate taxes; and since January 1, TACS collected approximately \$45,867. In addition, Mr. Grindstaff said 11 VRW stops were collected in January and four to date collected in February.

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).

REQUEST TO RETAIN FY 2013 CARRY-OVER FUNDS – SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Hall said Dr. Cotton is asking the Board for permission for the School Board to retain \$784,386 in carry-over funds from the FY 2013 budget. Dr. Cotton indicates that the School Board would use the funds for HVAC/lighting upgrades at Bassett High School and to implement phase 2 of the Magna Vista new tech center project.

On a motion by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously agreed that the request be tabled until work on the FY 2015 County Budget is farther along.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Bryant thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers during the recent loss of his mother.

Mr. Hall reminded the Board of the Fast Track 2014 Trade Show with VIP night scheduled on March 4. Mr. Hall said tickets were to be mailed directly to Board members.

Mr. Hall said during the Planning Session, there was some discussion about the convenience center program and the Stoney Mountain site, the only unmanned site remaining. On a related matter, Mr. Hall said he and Ms. Buchanan had recently discussed funds for unsafe structure demolition. Mr. Hall said there is \$55,000 in the Board's contingency fund and staff recommends using those funds to staff/upgrade the Stoney Mountain convenience center site at an approximate cost of \$37,000 and allocate the remaining balance of \$18,000 equally among the six magisterial districts for unsafe structures.

Mr. Adams noted that staffing the Stoney Mountain site will essentially pay for itself in the long-term by saving the County money on tipping fees going forward. Ms. Buchanan said Lee Clark is currently working on four or five unsafe structures and the Board needs to continue adding money to this fund because these structures are a safety hazard.

Mr. Adams moved the Board appropriate \$37,000 from the contingency fund to the convenience center program, and the remaining \$18,000 divided equally among the six districts for unsafe structure demolition, seconded by Mr. Kendall and unanimously carried.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Slaughter moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:27 p.m., seconded by Ms. Buchanan and unanimously carried to discuss the following.

- 1) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Industrial Development Authority and the Dan River Alcohol Safety Action Program Board.
- 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 4:09 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Kendall and unanimously carried.

George Lyle, County Attorney, arrived at 4:09 p.m.

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. Adams, Ms. Buchanan, Mr. Slaughter, and Mr. Vaughn.

Industrial Development Authority – On a motion by Mr. Kendall and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously reappointed Rodney Thacker, Ridgeway District representative, and Wesley Caviness, Collinsville District, to a four-year term expiring March 31, 2018.

Dan River Alcohol Safety Action Program Board – On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously reappointed Rik Vaughn to a three-year term expiring March 31, 2017.

There being no further business, Mr. Vaughn recessed at 4:13 p.m. until the 5:00 p.m. joint meeting with the School Board.

JOINT MEETING WITH HENRY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD – 4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

Mr. Vaughn reconvened the Board of Supervisors meeting at 5:00 p.m.

The School Board convened for a joint budget work session with the Board of Supervisors. Chairman Joseph DeVault called the meeting of the School Board to order at 5:00 p.m. Members of the School Board present were: Joseph DeVault, Merris Stambaugh, Francis Zehr, Curtis Millner, and Betsy Mattox; Terri Flanagan was absent.

Superintendent Jared Cotton and Chief Financial Officer Dawn Lawson were also present as well as other staff members of the School Board.

Dr. Cotton made a presentation and reviewed the FY 2015 Budget with members of the Board and staff (Copy of Presentation included in Board's File). Dr. Cotton highlighted a number of achievements and recognitions of the school division in academics, effective and efficient use of resources, technology and high-quality staff. Dr. Cotton said among the budget challenges are continuing the 2 percent pay raise for all employees, an 8 percent increase in health insurance premiums, an increase in the employer contribution rate to the Virginia Retirement System and some retirement costs related to a hybrid plan. Dr. Cotton said other budget challenges include continued increase in utility costs and instability of fuel costs, and the continued challenge to find funding to meet increasing capital needs. The school division is requesting a total of \$17,028,428 in county funds for FY 2015, an increase of \$450,533 over FY '14.

There was some general discussion including concerns about the security of students in modular/annex buildings at Collinsville Primary, Stanleytown, Sanville and John Redd Smith elementary schools. Dr. DeVault asked the Board to consider funding to the school division as an investment. Mr. Vaughn said the Board of Supervisors has a record of being pro-education noting providing funding for such things as a laptop computer initiative in schools and the development of Warrior Tech Academy at Magna Vista High School.

Mr. Hall said the county government faces many of the same challenges as the school division, including higher retirement and health insurance costs. Mr. Hall said new revenue is virtually nonexistent but he will do everything possible to recommend funding the school division to enable it to continue its current operations and to help the school division grow.

Mr. Vaughn recessed the meeting of the Board of Supervisors at 5:45 p.m. until the 6:00 p.m. evening meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Millner and seconded by Mr. Aucker, Chairman DeVault adjourned the meeting of the School Board at 5:45 p.m.

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

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

There was no one present who wished to speak.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

Ms. 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 April 22 meeting.

Ms. Hughes reported that the railroad will be doing track repairs on Pulaski Road March 5 and will have the crossing closed for about six hours. Ms. Hughes said the first

phase of the Carver Road safety project is underway and flashing signals should be up in about 30 days. Additionally, Ms. Hughes said the US 220 South safety project in Oak

Level has been awarded and work should begin in the next 60 days. Lastly, Ms. Hughes said bridge repairs should begin soon on Route 609 in Fieldale near the Bypass.

Mr. Adams asked Ms. Hughes who emergency workers should contact during inclement weather if they need assistance in having a road cleared. Ms. Hughes said all calls should go through 911 Dispatch because they work directly with VDOT when there is an emergency situation.

Mr. Vaughn inquired about snow removal contractors. Ms. Hughes said VDOT does contract out some snow removal but approximately 75% is in-house. Mr. Vaughn said he received quite a few calls during the recent snowstorm because operators came through several neighborhoods and plowed all of the streets but one and in some cases only plowed half of the street. Ms. Hughes said in a heavy snow, operators will sometimes go through and try to open up a path and plan to come back and possibly the street was just missed. Ms. Hughes said VDOT did evaluate their response to the latest storm and found some areas where they could improve on.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCESS FUNDING

Mr. Hall said the Economic Development Access (EDA) Program is a state-funded incentive designed to assist Virginia localities in attracting sustainable businesses that create jobs and generate tax revenues within the locality. The program makes funds available to localities for road improvements needed to provide adequate access for new or substantially expanding qualifying establishments. Mr. Hall said with the recent announcement by Kilgour Industries, staff began discussions with VDOT about EDA funding for improvements along Barrows Mill Road. Mr. Hall said a resolution asking the CTB to consider an allocation of \$650,000 toward these initial road improvements was included in the Board's working papers. Mr. Hall said this funding would require a County match of \$150,000.

On a motion by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved the resolution.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION FOR FY '14-'15 FUNDING

Mr. Jerry Adams, President of the Martinsville-Henry County Firefighter's Association, requested time on the agenda to discuss the Association's FY '14-'15 budget requests. Mr. Adams said the Association is recommending that the capital improvement contribution of \$175,000 from the County be granted to Bassett Volunteer Fire Department to go towards the purchase of a Class A custom rescue truck. Mr. Adams said the department has already sold one engine and plans to dispose of one or two more to help offset the cost of the new truck.

Mr. Adams moved the Board consider the request along with all other requests for the FY '14-'15 Budget, seconded by Mr. Kendall and carried 6 to 0.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Adams moved at 6:17 p.m. to continue the meeting until January 31, 2014 at 10:45 am, seconded by Ms. Buchanan and carried 6 to 0.