

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES**

**March 24, 2015 – 3:00 p.m.**

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on March 24, 2015, 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 Jim Adams, Debra Buchanan, Tommy Slaughter, 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; County Attorney George Lyle; Susan Reynolds, Director of Human Resources; and Michelle Via, Administrative Assistant.

Deputies Mike Hooper and Brian Lawson 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 Mr. Bryant led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADJOURNMENT OF FEBRUARY 24, 2015 MEETING**

Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to officially adjourn the meeting from February 24, 2015. The February meeting was previously continued in order to have a joint budget meeting with the school board; however, the meeting had to be canceled because of inclement weather. Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn the February 24 meeting, second by Mr. Kendall and unanimously carried.

**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:**

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Copy included in Board's File

**Proclamation Establishing April 1 – 7, 2015 as “Local Government Education Week” in Henry County**

Copy included in Board's File

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

**CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING APRIL 2015 AS “CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH” IN HENRY COUNTY**

Mr. Slaughter read aloud a proclamation establishing April 2015 as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” in Henry County and moved the Board adopt it as presented, second by Mr. Bryant and unanimously carried.

Ms. Nancy Kennett of the Martinsville-Henry County Exchange Club was present to accept the proclamation. Ms. Kennett thanked the Board for its support and stated this year’s campaign is titled “Enough,” enough secrets, enough shame, enough hurt, enough confusion, enough denial, enough child sexual abuse.

**CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING MARCH 29, 2015 THROUGH APRIL 4, 2015 AS “BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB WEEK” IN HENRY COUNTY**

Mr. Adams read aloud a proclamation naming March 29 through April 4, 2015 as “Boys and Girls Club Week” in Henry County and moved the Board adopt it, second by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved.

Ms. Beth Ann James with the Martinsville-Henry County Boys and Girls Club was present to accept the honor. Ms. James thanked the Board and noted the Club currently serves over 500 children in the Martinsville-Henry County area.

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF GLENDA COMER**

Ms. Buchanan read aloud a resolution honoring the retirement of Glenda Comer from the Commissioner of the Revenue’s Office and her 44 years of loyal service to the citizens of Henry County. On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and second by Mr. Adams, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution. Ms. Comer was present to accept the resolution and thanked the Board. Ms. Linda Love also spoke and praised Ms. Comer for being a dedicated employee.

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE KERR LAKE REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM INTERBASIN TRANSFER CERTIFICATE REQUEST**

Mr. Vaughn requested the Board consider a resolution in opposition of the Kerr Lake Regional Water System (KLRWS) interbasin transfer certificate request. Mr. Vaughn said additional water withdrawal from the Roanoke River Basin could have negative economic and environmental impacts on communities within the Roanoke River Basin, including Henry County.

Mr. Bryant read aloud the resolution and moved the Board adopt it as presented, second by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried.

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE FROM DELEGATE CHARLES POINDEXTER**

The Honorable Charles D. Poindexter, 9<sup>th</sup> District Representative to the Virginia House of Delegates, was present to provide a summary update of the 2015 session of the Virginia General Assembly. Delegate Poindexter said he and his colleagues worked professionally and without animosity and he was pleased with the session. Unfortunately, Del. Poindexter said the economy is not rebounding as expected, largely because of the reduction in defense spending. Del. Poindexter also brought several pieces of legislation to the Board's attention including a bill to freeze base electricity rates for four or six years, depending on the electricity provider.

## **REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN VOTING PRECINCTS RE: SPENCER AND DYERS STORE PRECINCTS – ELECTORAL BOARD**

Mr. Hall said the Henry County Electoral Board is asking the Board to consider two changes to voting precincts. First, the Electoral Board would like to move the polling place for the Spencer precinct from the upper level to the lower level of Spencer Ruritan building. Secondly, the Electoral Board would like to move the polling place for the Dyers Store precinct from the Dyers Store Ruritan building to the Dyers Store Fire Department. Mr. Hall said if the Board wishes to move forward with the proposed changes, a public hearing will be required but the changes do not require approval of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Ms. Peggy Moran, Secretary of the Electoral Board, was present and said that the Dyers Store Ruritan building in particular had a number of issues, including black mold, a furnace with an oil leak and electrical outlets that don't function resulting in the need for extension cords that cause tripping hazards. In addition, Ms. Moran said the windows permit wasps to enter and one poll worker is highly allergic to insect stings. Ms. Moran added that during the last election, one voter refused to enter the building due to its condition.

Mr. Adams moved the Board set a public hearing for the April 28 meeting, second by Ms. Buchanan and unanimously approved.

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

Mr. Scott Grindstaff was unable to attend today's meeting but the monthly reports on delinquent tax collection efforts were included in the Board's working papers.

## **ACCEPTANCE AND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: CLEAN VESSEL ACT GRANT – PHILPOTT MARINA**

Mr. Hall said Henry County has been awarded a Clean Vessel Act (CVA) grant from the Virginia Department of Health in the amount of \$22,500 to install a sanitary waste pump-out system at the Philpott Marina. The pump-out system will allow boats on the lake with sewer systems to safely dispose of its waste. Mr. Hall said the grant requires a 25% match and will be provided from existing budgeted funds.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved acceptance and appropriation of the grant as outlined.

### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: ASSET FORFEITURE – COMMONWEALTH’S ATTORNEY’S OFFICE**

Mr. Hall said Commonwealth’s Attorney Andrew Nester is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation of \$2,263 from his asset forfeiture funds to cover the purchase of audio/visual equipment for the court room and software for a laptop computer.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Mr. Kendall, the Board unanimously approved the additional appropriated.

### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: AIR COMPRESSOR BUILDING – PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mr. Hall said at the September meeting, the Board approved the sale of surplus property located at Public Safety. Mr. Hall said Rodney Howell is asking the Board to allow Public Safety to use up to \$23,000 of the revenue generated from the sale of the items to build an air compressor and storage building near the burn building. Mr. Howell said the building will improve efficiency and safety when conducting fire simulations at the burn building.

On a motion by Mr. Kendall and second by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved the additional appropriation as requested.

### **AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: HOUSING REHABILITATION – LINDEN ROAD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROJECT**

Mr. Hall said Lee Clark is asking the Board to award a contract to Kenneth D. Robertson Masonry in the amount of \$63,900 for substantial reconstruction of 62 Elm Street, Bassett. Mr. Hall said funds for this project were previously appropriated from a Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development grant.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and second by Mr. Kendall, the Board voted unanimously to award a contract to Kenneth Robertson Masonry in the amount of \$63,900.

### **AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: FENCING – PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Hall said Roger Adams is requested the Board award a contract to Holland Fence Company in the amount of \$26,325 to repair fencing at various County parks. Mr. Hall said funds for this project are included in the FY ’15 capital improvement and operating budget.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved an award of contract to Holland Fence Company in the amount of \$26,325.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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

Mr. Slaughter commented on the continuing need to address ongoing litter problems throughout the county.

Ms. Buchanan called attention to road projects in the Horsepasture District, Routes 58 and 687, and asked the community to be cautious of workers in those areas.

Mr. Adams said that he and Ms. Buchanan, along with County and PSA staff, recently held a public informational meeting concerning a waterline extension in the Pleasant Grove area. Mr. Adams said guidelines were set forth about residents who wish to hook on to the line and noted there is no penalty if landowners agree to an easement. Mr. Adams said this waterline extension would bring a redundant line closer to Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre. Ms. Buchanan encouraged citizens who have questions about the project to contact Mr. Hall.

Mr. Vaughn noted the economic development monthly report was distributed for the Board's information. Mr. Vaughn also reminded everyone of the upcoming race weekend and encouraged everyone to welcome all of the visitors to the area.

Mr. Hall reminded the Board of the employee service banquet on Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m. at NCI. Also, Mr. Hall reminded the Board of the meeting on April 7 at 5 p.m. for the budget presentation.

## **FY 2015-16 BUDGET PRESENTATION – DR. JARED COTTON, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT**

Superintendent Dr. Jared Cotton was present to deliver the school division's FY 2015-16 Budget presentation (Copy of Presentation included in Board's file). The proposed budget totals \$73,971,123, an overall increase of \$852,026 compared with the current fiscal year. Dr. Cotton's proposed budget includes \$915,025 for teacher salary adjustments, the creation of new positions (including a math specialist/coordinator and an additional technology position) and the restoration of funds for supplies and technology and capital outlay funds for items such as furniture and equipment.

## **CLOSED MEETING**

Mr. Slaughter moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 4:30 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 Henry-Martinsville Social Services Board and West Piedmont Planning District Commission Technical Advisory Committee.
- 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 6 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Slaughter 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. Adams, Ms. Buchanan, Mr. Slaughter and Mr. Vaughn.

West Piedmont Planning District Commission Technical Advisory Committee – On a motion by Mr. Adams and second by Ms. Buchanan, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Lee Clark to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2017.

### **Board Endorsement of New Elementary School in Collinsville District**

Chairman Vaughn read aloud a prepared statement following closed session concerning the acquisition of real estate for the proposed school. The statement read as follows:

“The Henry County Board of Supervisors recognizes and supports the need for a new elementary school to serve students in the Collinsville Primary and John Redd Smith Elementary School districts. School officials have received several proposals for land for the new school. The Board of Supervisors gives its verbal support for school administration and the school board to move forward with negotiating with one or more of the proposers. At this point in the process, it is important to keep further information confidential so as not to hinder the negotiation process. We look forward to hearing back from them in the near future.”

## **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE CARLISLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM**

Mr. Adams read aloud a resolution recognizing the Carlisle School girls' basketball team that recently won the VISAA Division III state championship. On a motion by Mr. Adams and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution. Coaches, staff, and student-athletes of the team were present to accept the resolution.

## **PUBLIC HEARING - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT, VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (VDHCD) RE: SMITH RIVER SMALL TOWNS BUSINESS DISTRICT REVITALIZATION PROJECT**

Mr. Hall said through the utilization of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Henry County has assisted the Smith River Small Towns Collaborative with the development of an Economic and Physical Improvements Revitalization Master Plan to identify and address revitalization opportunities in the Bassett and Fieldale areas. Mr. Lee Clark is asking the Board to authorize an Economic Development Grant application to the state Department of Housing and Community Development (VDHCD) to start phase 1 improvements as identified by the master plan. Mr. Hall said the grant would fund physical improvements to potentially 16 business facades in Bassett and Fieldale; physical improvements to the central town squares in Bassett and Fieldale; streetscape improvements in both communities; and improvements to the farmers market in Bassett and the community grounds in Fieldale.

Mr. Hall said the estimated cost of the project is \$3,242,625, which includes \$700,000 in CDBG funds; \$80,000 from local sources; \$1,662,625 from private sources; \$100,000 from federal sources; and \$700,000 from state sources.

Lastly, Mr. Hall said VDHCD requires that two public hearings be held during this process – the first public hearing was held on January 20, 2015 and the second public hearing is scheduled for today's meeting. Mr. Adams said a substantial number of people attended the first public hearing and the project has received a significant amount of financial support in the private sector.

Mr. Vaughn opened the public hearing at 6:12 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Vaughn closed the public hearing at 6:12 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Adams and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution authorizing the submittal of the Economic Development Grant application.

### **GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS**

David Kiser, Assistant Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, will address the Board on general highway matters. Mr. Kiser said road crews are now focusing on patching potholes and any other road repairs after all of the winter weather. In addition, the 58/Carver Road intersection project is underway, but VDOT will have all lanes of traffic open for this weekend's race activities.

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

Dorothy Carter, Reed Creek District, addressed the Board on behalf of the Henry County Education Association. Ms. Carter noted that teachers have not received step raises for four consecutive years, and because of the change in the Virginia Retirement System, County educators take home an average of \$60-\$80 less each month. Ms. Carter commended the Board for being fiscally responsible; however, in the last two years, the County has saved an additional \$7 million while the needs of the school system are not being met. Ms. Carter urged the Board to not only fully fund Dr. Cotton's budget request, but to also ask him how much more funding is needed to implement step raises for every school employee.

James Whitlow, Jr., a special education paraprofessional at G.W. Carver Elementary School, addressed the Board and asked that they please vote yes when considering the school budget. Mr. Whitlow said the proposed budget includes a five percent pay raise for special education paraprofessionals, noting this is his fifth year of working in the program with an annual pay of only \$15,436.

Ashby Pinkard, Stanleytown Elementary School librarian, thanked the Board for the 1.25 percent bonus received this past week, but said it would take 30 bonuses to make up for the money she has lost the past three years with no step increase. Ms. Pinkard encouraged the implementation of step raises effective this coming year.

Clifford Stone voiced his concern that the Sanville community does not want to see Sanville Elementary School closed.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to continue the meeting to April 7, 2015 at 5 p.m. for the County Administrator's Budget Presentation, seconded by Ms. Buchanan and carried 6 to 0.