

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

February 27, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on February 27, 2018, 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: Jim Adams, Chairman, Debra Buchanan, Vice-Chairman, Tommy Slaughter, David Martin, Joe Bryant, and Ryan Zehr.

Staff members present were Tim Hall, County Administrator; Dale Wagoner, Deputy County Administrator; Darrell Jones, Director of Finance; Richard Stanfield, Deputy Director of Finance; George Lyle, County Attorney; Susan Reynolds, Director of Human Resources/Public Information Officer; Michelle Via, Human Resource Generalist; Scott Grindstaff, Treasurer; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Deputy Mike Hooper, and Lt. Steve Raines of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present was Ben Williams of the Martinsville Bulletin.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Lyle gave the invocation and Ms. Buchanan led 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 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 23, 2018
- February 8, 2018

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File

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

UPDATE FROM THE CHAMBER'S PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH (CPEG)

Lisa Fultz, Executive Director of the Chamber's Partnership for Economic Growth (CPEG) provided an update to the Board on small business and retail development efforts. Ms. Fultz stated that since her last update in October, there have been seven ribbon cuttings, representing 35 jobs, two of the ribbon cutting were in the County. "Startup Martinsville-Henry County" has been expanded to include a "Grow" component which is a separate boot camp for existing businesses. The Startup boot camp has 31 participants and is an eight-week program which began February 8th. The Grow boot camp has 10 participants and begins this evening. Participants who wish to compete for cash must complete a business plan by April 16th and they will be invited to provide a business pitch in person. Of the 13 businesses awarded funding, 85%, or 11 are still in business. Retail Strategies is continuing conversations with retailers and restaurants and has eight current prospects. They plan to attend the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) events in Charlotte, NC, March 5-6 and in Maryland, March 21-22. Fast Track 2018 has been sold out for a couple of weeks and will showcase many of our great businesses and organizations in the community.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 85.84% of 2017 personal property taxes have been collected; 88.89% of 2017 real estate taxes; and since January 1, TACS collected approximately \$26,108; and seventeen DMV stops were collected in January.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mr. Mark Heath, President and CEO 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).

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: STATE 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 \$156 from State asset forfeiture funds for the purchase of computer related equipment.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and second by Dr. Martin, the Board unanimously approved an additional appropriation of \$156 as outlined.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANTS – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mr. Hall said Sheriff Lane Perry is asking the Board to appropriate a grant of \$6,051 from the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for selective enforcement to improve highway safety. These funds are pass-through from the National Highway Safety Administration, and will be used to purchase three radar units to be mounted in patrol vehicles. An in-kind match will be provided by the Sheriff’s Office through use of the department’s equipment.

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

CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH ALCALDE AND FAY AND THE INTERSTATE 73 COALITION

Mr. Hall said Henry County is a party to a contract with Alcalde and Fay, LLC, to advocate for the County on Interstate 73 issues on the federal and state levels. The “Interstate 73 Coalition” includes the Cities of Martinsville and Roanoke, and the Counties of Henry, Franklin and Roanoke. The contract expired December 31, 2017. The rate for the proposed contract extension will remain at \$1,500 per month. (Copy of proposed contract is included in Board’s File). Staff believes that the relationship with Alcalde and Fay had produced more awareness on the state and federal levels of the I-73 project and the issues surrounding it. Roanoke County and the City of Martinsville have already taken action to renew the contract.

Ms. Buchanan said she thinks the board could make a point either way on that funding and that people would agree that I-73 could certainly create a significant positive impact for this area. Ms. Buchanan said, we’re dealing with the Army Corps of Engineers, and at this point, they’re not supporting it without a new study, and the funding would have to be available to do a study, and that’s in the millions and at least 10 years down the road.

Dr. Martin said that we would be investing in the future and that probably we will never see the results. He noted it was similar to our investment with economic development projects where we may see the rewards for many years down the road. Dr. Martin thought the contract would give us a seat at the table to know what’s happening.

Dr. Martin made a motion to renew the contract with Alcalde and Fay for \$1,500 per month and it was seconded by Mr. Slaughter. The Board was tied at a 3-3 vote and the motion failed.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Dr. Martin wanted to thank Wade Nester, Henry County Public Service Authority; Milton Kendall, Former Iriswood Supervisor; and Ben Gravely, Iriswood School Board for meeting with him to discuss the possibilities to extend PSA water to the Stoney Mountain area. Dr. Martin also wanted to thank Mr. Hall for sending the Board a chronology of events for the Dick and Willie Trail.

Mr. Hall said that work on the Dick and Willie Trail Section 6B has already begun near the Sports Complex. Mr. Hall also stated that county staff had discussed with Martinsville City Manager Leon Towarnicki a new plan to move the trail onto the Country Club Drive itself, rather than through the woods behind the homes on the street. Mr. Hall said that the City of Martinsville staff had reached out to some of the residents along Country Club, and at least initially, there was some positive reaction.

CLOSED MEETING

Dr. Martin moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:45 p.m., seconded by Mr. Zehr and unanimously carried to discuss the following.

- 1) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Industrial Development Authority.
- 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 4:46 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.

Board members voting in the affirmative were Mr. Zehr, Mr. Bryant, Dr. Martin, Mr. Adams, Ms. Buchanan, and Mr. Slaughter.

Industrial Development Authority – On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the reappointment of Rodney Thacker, Ridgeway District; and Wesley Caviness, Collinsville District, to a four-year term ending March 31, 2022.

Mr. Adams recessed at 4:48 p.m. until the 6:00 p.m. evening meeting.

Mr. Adams welcomed everyone to the 6 p.m. meeting.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

Lisa Hughes, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, updated the Board on general highway matters. David Kiser, Assistant Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, was also present. Ms. Hughes presented a drawing of the proposed road improvement at the intersection of 220 Business and Lee Ford Camp Road. If approved, the work on the road improvement should begin in 2019.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

There was no one present who wished to speak.

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Buchanan moved to adjourn at 6:07 p.m., seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried.