

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES**

February 25, 2020– 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on February 25, 2020, 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, Joe Bryant, Tommy Slaughter, and Ryan Zehr. David Martin was absent.

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; Michelle Via, Director of Human Resources/Public Information Officer; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Deputy Nicole Dunn, Deputy Jeff Jones, and Lt. Steve Raines of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Kim Meeks of the Martinsville Bulletin, and Brandon Martin of Henry County Enterprise.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. 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, 2020
- February 4, 2020

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

Mr. Bryant moved the Items of Consent be approved, seconded by Mr. Slaughter. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 86.93% of 2019 personal property taxes and 89.60% of 2019 real estate taxes had been collected. Since January 1, 2020, TACS has received approximately \$93,244.25. There were thirty-nine VRW stops collected in January 2020 and nineteen collected in February 2020.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

No one was present to make a report.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: SELF-INSURANCE FUND – FINANCE DEPT.

Mr. Hall said Finance Director Darrell Jones is asking the Board to approve a transfer appropriation of \$173,686.32 from the Self-Insurance Fund to County, Schools, and Social Services operating budgets. This financial housekeeping measure allows the expenditures for health initiatives to be appropriately represented on financial reports.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appropriation of \$173,686.32 from the Self Insurance Fund to the operating budgets outlined on the appropriation sheet.

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

Mr. Hall said Commonwealth’s Attorney Andrew Nester is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation of \$1,221 from State Asset Forfeiture funds. The funds will be used to purchase computer printers and office furniture.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved the additional appropriation State Asset Forfeiture funds of \$1,221.

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: UNIFORMS AND DOORWAY MATS - ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Hall said staff is asking the Board to award a five-year contract for uniforms and doorway mats to Cintas, Inc. based in Mason, Ohio. The contract is based on a set unit price for each item, and the price cannot increase for the duration of the contract. The annual cost of uniforms and mats do not necessitate the Board’s approval, but staff felt it was best to have the Board approve the contract since the cumulative value over the five years will exceed \$20,000. Uniforms are provided to various employees working in maintenance and other areas.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved awarding a five-year contract for uniforms and doorway mats to Cintas, Inc.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: PLANNING GRANT – SMITH RIVER SMALL TOWNS COLLABORATIVE

Mr. Hall said as part of the Smith River Small Towns Collaborative efforts, Henry County has been awarded a planning grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission to prepare a feasibility and sustainability study for the Fieldale Recreation Center. Funds in the Smith River Small Towns Collaborative budget will be used for the required grant match of \$21,429. Staff is asking the Board to appropriate the grant funds and the required matching funds totaling \$71,429. The study will assist the Center with future interior renovations and development.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the additional appropriation of \$71,429.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: S.E.E.D. BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM – PLANNING, ZONING, AND INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Hall said Lee Clark, Director of Planning, Zoning, and Inspections is requesting the Board to appropriate \$13,050 received from Eastman Chemical Company for the continued participation in the Strategic Economic Environmental Design (S.E.E.D.) Beautification Program. The funds will be used to maintain the sponsor garden at the U.S. 220 Business interchange in the Bassett Forks area.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved awarding the contract to Steve Martin Trenching, Inc. in the amount of \$829,500 for the construction of a sewer lift station at the new Adult Detention Center.

AWARD OF CONTRACT – CONSTRUCTION OF SEWER LIFT STATION – ADULT DETENTION CENTER

Mr. Hall said as part of the ongoing construction of the Adult Detention Center, the County issued an invitation to bid to qualified vendors interested in constructing a sewer lift station for the Center. Steve Martin Trenching, Inc. of Bassett, Virginia, submitted the low bid of \$829,500. Staff is asking the Board to award a contract to Steve Martin Trenching, Inc. for construction of the sewer lift station. Funds for this project are included in the jail construction budget.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved awarding the contract to Steve Martin Trenching, Inc. in the amount of \$829,500 for the construction of a sewer lift station at the new Adult Detention Center.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: OPPORTUNITY ZONES PLANNING GRANT – PLANNING, ZONING, AND INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Hall said staff is asking the Board to appropriate grant funds of \$30,000 received from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for preparation of a hospitality feasibility study and marketing plan to assist in ongoing community development efforts.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appropriation of \$30,000 received from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Hall updated the Board on several items. The County is waiting to see the final State Budget and its recommendations for salaries for teachers, the likely minimum wage increase, and other items that impact the County budget. Lee-Jackson Day was removed from the State Holiday schedule and replaced with Election Day. Internal budget meetings with the managers will begin on February 26. Fast Track 2020 will have a new location this year in the Industrial Park with VIP night on March 3. The VDOT Southern Connector Environmental Impact meeting will be held on March 26 at Drewry Mason Elementary School from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The Henry County Fair will be held at the Martinsville Speedway in the Fall 2021 and will conclude with the Late Model Stock race. Mr. Hall requested the Board to authorize him to send an endorsement of support for establishing local pre-trial services.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved authorizing Mr. Hall to send a letter of endorsement of support for establishing local pre-trial services.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Slaughter moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:21 p.m., seconded by Ms. Buchanan and unanimously carried to discuss the following:

- A) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Patriot Centre/CCBC Advisory Board, Piedmont Regional Community Services Board, Industrial Development Authority, Southern Area Agency on Aging Board, Dan River Alcohol Safety Action Program Board, and Patrick-Henry Community College Board.
- B) §2.2-3711(A)7 for Discussion of Pending Legal Matters.
- C) §2.2-3711(A)3 for Discussion of Acquisition/Disposal of Real Estate.
- D) §2.2-3711(A)5 for Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 4:23 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Zehr 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. Adams, Mr. Bryant, Ms. Buchanan, Mr. Zehr, and Mr. Slaughter.

Industrial Development Authority – On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved the appointments of Len Dillon and Steve Isley to four-year terms ending March 31, 2024.

Southern Area Agency on Aging Board - On a motion by Mr. Zehr and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Felicia Preston to an unexpired term ending November 1, 2021.

Mr. Adams recessed at 4:26 p.m. until the 5:00 p.m. for the joint budget work session with School Board.

Mr. Adams welcomed everyone to the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION HONORING THE BASSETT HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND OF DISTINCTION

Mr. Slaughter read aloud a resolution recognizing the Bassett High School Band of Distinction, which recently placed first in the Class 3A Virginia Marching Band Cooperative Championship in Lynchburg, VA. On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and second by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved the resolution. Band Director Trey Harris and several members of the marching band were present to accept the resolution.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

Lisa Hughes, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, updated the Board on general highway matters.

PUBLIC HEARING – CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT – COUNTY ATTORNEY

Mr. Hall said the local cable television provider, Comcast, desires to enter into a new franchise agreement with Henry County. The agreement contains numerous changes from the old agreement, which expired many years ago. Because the new agreement with the franchisee referenced in the ordinance, and because some of the terms of the proposed franchise agreement are in contradiction of the existing ordinance, County Attorney George Lyle recommends holding a public hearing before considering approving changes to the 15-year franchise agreement. The public hearing has been properly advertised.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:17 p.m. Mary Martin, Ridgeway District, and John Pegram, Reed Creek District spoke in opposition to the franchise agreement with concerns of the elimination of a local Comcast office. Joanie Petty, Boys & Girls Club of the Blue Ridge spoke in support of Comcast Foundation and their support to the Martinsville and Henry County Boys and Girls Club. Nathan Dougherty, with Comcast spoke about some of the services offered by Comcast. Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Zehr and second by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved tabling approval of the franchise agreement until the March Board meeting.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Ms. Dorothy Carter, Reed Creek District Resident and President of the Henry County Education Association, spoke in favor of the Henry County School Board proposed the 2020-2021 budget.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:55 p.m., seconded by Mr. Zehr and unanimously carried.