

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES**

**March 24, 2020 – 3:00 p.m.**

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on March 24, 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, David Martin, 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; and Michelle Via, Director of Human Resources/Public Information Officer.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Deputy Nicole Dunn, and Lt. Steve Raines of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present was Charles Roark from Star News.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mr. Adams gave the invocation, and Mr. Zehr 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.

- February 25, 2020

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Copy included in Board's File.

**Proclamation**

Declaring March 2020 as "American Red Cross Month" in Henry County

**Resolution**

Declaring April 2020 as "Fair Housing Month" in Henry County

Mr. Bryant moved the Items of Consent be approved, and it was seconded by Dr. Martin. The motion carried unanimously.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE – ROB CATRON**

Rob Catron, Henry County's lobbyist for General Assembly matters, updated the Board on the 2020 General Assembly session and its impact on Henry County (Copy included in Board's File).

### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: ENGINEERING SERVICES – COMMONWEALTH CROSSING BUSINESS CENTRE**

Mr. Hall said staff is asking the Board to appropriate a grant in the amount of \$20,000 received from the Harvest Foundation to perform a preliminary engineering report for extending natural gas utilities to Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre. The grant does not require a match. Staff is also asking the Board to award a sole-source contract to Southwestern Virginia Gas Company in the amount of \$20,000 to provide the engineering report. Southwestern Virginia Gas is the sole provider of natural gas in the area, and it is most practical to have them produce the report.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved appropriating the grant of \$20,000 and awarding a sole-source contract in the same amount to Southwestern Virginia Gas Company for engineering services.

### **AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT – ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**

Mr. Hall said Commissioner of Revenue Linda Love is asking the Board to award a contract to Vision Government Solutions, Inc. for maintenance and support fees of the software used by the Assessor's Office for collecting and managing real estate assessment data. The price for year one of the agreement is \$20,730, and it increases 3% annually for year two and three

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved awarding a contract to Vision Government Solutions as outlined above.

### **STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

Mr. Hall said because of the need to more readily procure and deploy resources in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the County Administrator declared a State of Emergency in Henry County on Monday, March 16, 2020, as allowed under Sec. 44-146.21 of the Code of Virginia. As part of that process, the governing body of the locality must take official action to authorize that declaration. These actions must take place at the governing body's next regularly scheduled meeting or at a special called meeting within 14 days of the declaration (Copy included in the Board's file).

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously affirmed the declaration of the emergency.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved the Continuity of Government during the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Pandemic Ordinance.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **Comments from the Board**

Mr. Zehr reminded everyone to make sure to get credible information on the Coronavirus/COVID-19 from sources such as the Center for Disease Control and medical professionals.

Mr. Slaughter said he had been contacted by a retired deputy asking the Board to name a bridge in the area after Henry County Deputy Paul Grubb, who was killed in the line of duty in 1989.

Mr. Adams wanted to thank the staff, school system, Sheriff's Office, first responders, and others for their time, efforts, and response to the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

Mr. Hall asked David Scott, Henry County Schools Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Administrative Services, to update the Board on the school's response to the Coronavirus/COVID-19. Mr. Hall said the Treasurer, PSA Customer Service, and Commissioner of Revenue office windows have been closed for walk-up transactions. There is a link on the County's website for information and updates on the Coronavirus/COVID-19 <https://www.henrycountyva.gov/covid19>. Some drive-in testing sites for the virus are in place should the need arise in the future. Numerous organizations and individuals are working hard in the community to provide services, assistance, and information on the Coronavirus/COVID-19. The FY 2020-2021 Budget will be presented to the Board on April 7. The Census Bureau has pulled workers from door-to-door work due to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 at this time. The tax deadline of April 15 has been pushed back. Solid Stone Fabric has switched as of today from making their usual products to masks, gowns, and facemasks for our local medical providers. Any business owner who has questions about their business and operating during the Coronavirus/COVID-19 restrictions should send questions to [business@va.gov](mailto:business@va.gov).

### **CLOSED MEETING**

Ms. Buchanan moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:58 p.m., seconded by Mr. Bryant 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, Southern Area Agency on Aging Board, Dan River Alcohol Safety Action Program Board, Patrick-Henry Community College Board, and Henry-Martinsville Social Services 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 4:38 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Slaughter, 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, Dr. Martin, and Mr. Slaughter.

Piedmont Community Services Board – On a motion by Dr. Martin and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Bonnie A. Martin to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2022.

Dan River ASAP Board - On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Scott Barker to a three-year term ending March 31, 2023.

Refund – On a motion by Mr. Zehr and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved reimbursement in the amount of \$54,373 to BB&T for overpayment of the bank franchise tax.

Mr. Adams recessed at 4:43 p.m. until the 6:00 p.m. evening meeting.

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

## **PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE**

Mr. Clark said many localities in Virginia are considering requests for solar energy facilities. Henry County Zoning Ordinance does not explicitly address the placement of such facilities within the County, and there is a need to apply appropriate planning principles to their placement. Topics such as under which zoning classifications should be allowed, development size, setbacks, vegetative buffering, visual impacts, fencing, lighting, overall density, and decommissioning plans should be reviewed and approved by the County. A public hearing is required as part of this process.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. No one present wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. On a motion by Dr. Martin and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the rezoning request.

## **MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC**

Collinsville District citizen Doug Stegall addressed the Board concerning the cable television franchise.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:18 p.m., seconded by Mr. Zehr and unanimously carried.