

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

February 23, 2021 – 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on February 23, 2021, 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 David Martin. Ryan Zehr was absent.

Staff members present were Tim Hall, County Administrator; Dale Wagoner, Deputy County Administrator; George Lyle, County Attorney; Darrell Jones, Director of Finance; Michelle Via, Director of Human Resources/Public Information Officer; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Deputy Randy Goad, and Lt. Brian Lawson 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. Adams gave the invocation, and Dr. Martin 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 the 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 26, 2021

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

Dr. Martin moved to approve the Items of Consent, and Mr. Slaughter seconded it. Motion approved by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.

NAYS: None.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 87.56% of 2020 personal property taxes and 91.07% of 2020 real estate taxes had been collected. Since January 1, 2021, TACS has collected approximately \$98,434.00. There were eighteen VRW stops collected in January 2021 and thirty-five stops collected in February 2021.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mr. Mark Heath, President/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).

CONSIDERATION OF PERFORMANCE AGREEMENTS

Mr. Hall said with the onset of COVID-19 and its associated protocols, the traditional method of approving Performance Agreements for economic development deals before the public announcements have changed. Given our recent success with economic announcements, the Board needs to take action on several official documents. While public announcements of the LamTech expansion (January 15) and the Crown Holdings facility (January 28) have taken place through the Governor's Office, several documents still need to be officially executed. Mr. Hall presented a copy of the documents to the Board at the meeting (copy in Board's file).

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the performance agreements for Crown Holdings Inc. by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.
NAYS: None.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the performance agreement for Laminate Technologies, Inc. by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.
NAYS: None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Hall said the School Board would need to go into a closed session at 4:45 p.m. today before the Joint Budget Meeting with the School Board at 5:00 p.m. At the start of the 5:00 p.m. meeting, David Rose with Davenport will make a brief presentation of school debt refinancing. Mr. Hall introduced new Registrar Dawn Stultz-Vaughn to the Board. Mr. Hall said 2021-2022 budget meetings with managers would begin on March 1, 2021.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Slaughter moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:15 p.m. to discuss the following:

- A) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Industrial Development Authority, Planning Commission, and Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services
- 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.

Ms. Buchanan seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.
NAYS: None.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 4:45 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Dr. Martin, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.
NAYS: None.

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, Dr. Martin, and Mr. Slaughter.

Industrial Development Authority – On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Barry Nelson to a four-year term ending March 31, 2025.

Planning Commission - On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appointments of Fred Spencer, Glenwood Vaughn, and Hall Dee West to terms ending March 31, 2025.

JOINT SESSION WITH SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Chairman Thomas Aucker called the Joint Budget Meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Members of the School Board present were Chairman Thomas Aucker, Merris Stambaugh, Terri Flanagan, Ben Gravely, Teddy Martin, Vice Chairman Francis Zehr, and Cherie Whitlow.

David Rose with Davenport made a presentation about the potential refinancing of school debt (Copy in Board's file). With bond prices at historic low rates, it is possible that the County could save money by refinancing two loans used for the construction of Meadow View Elementary School.

On a motion by Mr. Francis Zehr and seconded by Mr. Teddy Martin, the School Board approved a resolution supporting the refinancing of school debt. (Copy in Board's file). The motion carried 7-0.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board set a public hearing on refinancing School Debt for March 23, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.

NAYS: None.

Mr. Hall also discussed the possibility of refinancing a literary loan held by the School System using the Virginia Public Schools Authority bond program. It also has the potential to save money for the County. On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved a resolution regarding the Public Facilities Refunding Bonds and VPSA General Obligation Bonds. (Copy included in Board's file),

Mr. Hall took a roll call vote.

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

Mrs. Strayer, Mr. Scott, and Mr. Boone presented the school division's FY 2022 Budget outlook. (Copy of presentation included in the Board's File).

Mr. Adams recessed the meeting at 5:35 p.m. until the 6:00 p.m. evening meeting.

The meeting of the School Board adjourned on a motion by Ms. Flanagan and second by Mr. Martin at 5:35 p.m.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED AMENDMENT FY '20-'21 COUNTY BUDGET

Mr. Hall said as part of the ongoing development of Commonwealth Crossing Business Center (CCBC), the County will work with Southwestern

Virginia Gas Company (SVG) and the Henry County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) to install natural gas to the park. Henry County has received a grant of \$1,500,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission to assist with this project. The Board will need to appropriate an additional \$4,500,000 from the general fund for this project, approve the performance agreement with SVG, and award a sole-source contract to SVG to install the service. This appropriation would be a “not to exceed” number, with the project’s total cost potentially being less than the amount appropriated. Because this amount exceeds one percent of the current budget, the Board is required to hold a public hearing to receive citizen input. The public hearing has been properly advertised and scheduled for this meeting. The IDA is expected to act on this item at its meeting on February 24.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:01 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:01 p.m.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the appropriation of \$4,500,000, approved the performance agreement with SVG for installation, and awarded the sole-source contract to SVG, all contingent upon the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) providing its approval at its February meeting by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.

NAYS: None.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

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

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Jim Roberts of the Reed Creek District addressed the Board concerning debris.

Doug Stegall from the Collinsville District addressed the Board concerning his disapproval of the Board of Supervisors receiving free health insurance from the County. Mr. Stegall felt Tim Hall was doing a great job in his role as County Administrator and PSA General Manager.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:21 p.m. Dr. Martin seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Buchanan, Slaughter, Bryant, and Martin.

NAYS: None.