

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES**

March 22, 2022 – 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on March 22, 2022, 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; Joe Bryant, Vice-Chairman; Debra Buchanan, Garrett Dillard, Tommy Slaughter, and Ryan Zehr.

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; Brandon Martin, Public Information Officer; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Major Eric Hairston and Deputy Tim Robertson of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Monique Holland of the Martinsville Bulletin and Callie Hietala of the Henry County Enterprise.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Adams gave the invocation and Mr. Slaughter 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.

- February 22, 2022

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

Resolution Declaring April 2022 as "Fair Housing Month"

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the Items of Consent, and Mr. Zehr seconded it. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Andrew Barker from the Iriswood District addressed the Board concerning County tax revenue and solar energy.

CONSIDERATION OF A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Ms. Buchanan read aloud a resolution recognizing National Library Week and National Library Workers Day. It was seconded by Mr. Slaughter, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
NAYS: None.

Members of the Library Board were present to receive the proclamation.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: VIRGINIA SCHOOL SCREENING TESTING FOR ASSURANCE PROGRAM – SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Hall stated that the School Board requests that the Supervisors approve an additional appropriation of \$300,000 received from the Virginia Department of Health's Virginia School Screening Testing for Assurance Program (ViSSTA). The funds will be used for expenses related to testing and ensuring public health communication, recommended isolation and quarantine protocol, responding to school needs, and assisting with the facilitation of answers to parents and school communities regarding COVID-19 testing and symptoms needed.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board approved the appropriation of \$300,000 as noted above by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: VIRGINIA BUSINESS READY SITES PROGRAM GRANT – COMMONWEALTH CROSSING BUSINESS CENTRE

Mr. Hall said Staff requests that the Board approve an appropriation of \$1,036,250 from the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership for site work on Lot #2 at Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre (CCBC). The funds will be used to clear the timber from the site and prepare grading design plans.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the appropriation of \$1,036,250 received from VEDP for site work at CCBC by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: VIRGINIA TOBACCO COMMISSION GRANT – COMMONWEALTH CROSSING BUSINESS CENTRE

Mr. Hall said Staff requests that the Board approve an appropriation of \$357,741 from the Virginia Tobacco Commission for site work on Lot #5 at Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre (CCBC). The funds will be used for the grading and development of Lot #5.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the appropriation of \$357,741 received from the Virginia Tobacco Commission for site work at CCBC by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BILLING SERVICES – PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Hall said Public Safety Director Matthew Tatum asks the Board to award a contract to EMS Management and Consultants, Inc. of Winston-Salem, NC, for emergency medical services (EMS) billing services. EMS Management and Consultants, Inc. have served as the billing agent for ambulance transports handled by the Department of Public Safety and the five volunteer rescue squads under an existing contract for the past five years. The contract award is based on RFP #20-14555 from James City County, Virginia. Pricing is based on a percentage of collections and is estimated to be approximately \$42,000 annually.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board awarded the contract to EMS Management and Consultants, Inc. for EMS billing services by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: ROOF REPLACEMENT – PARKS AND RECREATION

Mr. Hall said the Board allocated capital funds in FY'22 to replace the Henry County Recreation Center roof. However, the amount of funding was insufficient to start the project due to rapidly escalating labor and materials costs. Nevertheless, the project still has considerable merit even with the increased costs. Therefore, Staff is asking the Board to consider an additional appropriation from the contingency fund (\$50,000) and carryover funds (\$364,993) for the project. Subsequent to the additional appropriation, Staff asks the Board to award a contract of \$567,000 to JT Morgan Roofing, Inc. to replace the roof.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Dillard, the Board approved the additional appropriation totaling \$414,993 from the contingency and carryover funds and awarded the contract of \$567,000 to JT Morgan Roofing, Inc. for the replacement of the roof by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

Chairman Adams stated that following February's joint session with the School Board, each School Board member met one-on-one with their perspective counterpart on the Board of Supervisors. As a result, an additional financial matter needs to be considered.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved to allocate 100% of the 1% sales tax revenue to future construction, renovations, and improvements of school facilities, to replace \$2.6 million in the budget previously appropriated for school debt from the general fund reserve funds, and to set a public hearing for April 26 at 6:00 p.m. as required when amending the budget by more than 1% by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE CREATING A TOURISM ZONE

Mr. Hall said staff requests that the Board consider creating a tourism zone in Henry County to help recruit tourism-related businesses to our community. Much like traditional industry enterprise zones, a tourism zone allows businesses to take advantage of state and local tax incentives not available to businesses elsewhere. These incentives aim to stimulate business attraction, growth, and increased employment opportunities within the County.

Staff recommends that Henry County's tourism zone mirror the areas of the County zoned as Commercial B-1. To be eligible for incentives similar to enterprise zone incentives, the tourism-related business would have to make new capital investment of at least \$500,000 and create five new full-time jobs.

A public hearing is required before adopting an ordinance creating the tourism zone.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board set a public hearing to receive citizen input on the proposed ordinance during the next regular meeting scheduled for April 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Ms. Buchanan said the Horsepasture District Community Meeting will be on April 12, 2022, from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Horsepasture Ruritan Building.

Mr. Hall said the budget calendar needed to be revised due to the Virginia General Assembly's delay on some budget issues. On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the following revisions to the budget calendar:

- Present Total County Budget to Board of Supervisors - April 19,

- Work Session on the Budget - April 21 and April 25
- Advertise Public Hearing on the Budget – May 1
- Public Hearings on both School and County Budget – May 9
- Adoption of School Budget and Total County Budget - May 24
- Appropriation of School Budget and Total County Budget – June 28

The vote was as follows:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
 NAYS: None.

Mr. Adams said he felt that in recognition of the employee's good work and dedication in these trying times, the Board should approve Friday, April 15, as an additional employee holiday. On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved Friday, April 15, as an additional holiday for employees by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
 NAYS: None.

Mr. Hall said Appalachian Power will be holding a public information session on March 29th at the Bassett Train Station Event Center from 5:00 pm. - 7:30 p.m. for upcoming improvement projects. The VACo County Supervisors' Forum scheduled for April 29 - 30 has been canceled. Household Hazardous Waste Day is April 23rd, and the employee recognition banquet is May 12th.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Zehr moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:31 p.m. to discuss the following:

- A) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the 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

Mr. Slaughter seconded the motion, and it passed by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
 NAYS: None.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 4:20 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

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. Zehr, Mr. Dillard, Mr. Bryant, Ms. Buchanan, Mr. Slaughter, and Mr. Adams.

Mr. Adams recessed the meeting at 4:23 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

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

CONSIDERATION OF A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE 75 ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARTINSVILLE SPEEDWAY

Mr. Hall stated that Martinsville Speedway held its first race on September 7, 1947, and it has continued to host NASCAR-sanctioned Cup Series races every year since. Martinsville Speedway is an economic engine for our area while also enhancing the quality of life in Henry County and the region. Staff has prepared a proclamation recognizing the 75th Anniversary of Martinsville Speedway for the Board's consideration. In addition, Staff has worked on a new, temporary Henry County logo that incorporates this anniversary. The logo would be used in marketing efforts for Henry County and Martinsville Speedway. Mr. Zehr read aloud the proclamation honoring the 75th Anniversary of Martinsville Speedway. It was seconded by Mr. Bryant, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

Clay Campbell of Martinsville Speedway was present to accept the proclamation.

CONSIDERATION OF A PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING MARCH 2022 AS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS EDUCATION AND AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. Dillard read aloud the proclamation establishing March 2022 as Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month. It was seconded by Mr. Slaughter, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION PRESENTATION

Daniel Reynolds, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced the league champions for winter sports in the divisions of Junior and Senior Boys Basketball and Girls Volleyball.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

Lisa Hughes, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, updated the Board on general highway matters. Ms. Hughes said the six-year secondary road plan hearing will be on April 26, 2022.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ADDITION OF BUCKINGHAM TERRACE TO THE SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM

Mr. Hall stated Buckingham Terrace, located in the Farmingdale Subdivision, meets the public service criteria of the Subdivision Street Requirements to be a part of the Virginia Department of Transportation's secondary road system. Therefore, as an administrative matter, the Board must pass a resolution asking the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to accept the new roads into the secondary road system.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the resolution by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-22-04-GREGORY L. AND ANNE M. BENTON

Mr. Clark said the property is located at 902 Eggleston Falls Road, in the Ridgeway District. The Tax Map numbers are 62.3/84F, 84J, 84K, 84L. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 3.4-acre from Suburban Residential District S-R to Agricultural District A-1. The applicant wishes to build additional accessory buildings on the property.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:19 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:19 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board approved the rezoning request by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION RE: FIELDALE HERITAGE REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Mr. Hall said that as part of the grant process for an application to the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development, the Board must hold a public hearing to allow citizens the opportunity to comment on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) proposal to be submitted for the Fieldale

Heritage Revitalization Project. This required second public hearing has been properly advertised and scheduled for this meeting.

Staff is asking the Board to approve a resolution in support of the application. The grant will provide up to \$1,000,000 toward the project if funded.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:20 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:20 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the resolution in support of the CDBG grant application by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – MAGISTERIAL REDISTRICTING

Mr. Hall said that last month, the Redistricting Committee presented its recommendations for changes to the magisterial districts to meet the requirements of Article VII, §5 of the Virginia Constitution, which requires magisterial districts to be reapportioned every ten years following the release of the decennial census. This process aims to balance the represented population of each district to within 5% of the median. A public hearing is set for this meeting to receive citizen input on the proposed changes.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:22 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:22 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the changes to the magisterial districts as proposed by the committee by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Mr. Andrew Hines from the Iriswood District addressed the Board concerning school funding. Mr. Salvatore Monastra, a Vietnam Combat Veteran, addressed the Board to pass a resolution to fly the POW/MIA flag at the Administration Building. Ms. Joyce Staples from the Blackberry District addressed the Board concerning the hiring process and diversity. Ms. Lisa Eanes, Ridgeway District, addressed the Board concerning school funding. Mr. Ben Gravely from the Iriswood District addressed the Board to see if any consideration would be given to naming bridges to fallen service members.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Ms. Buchanan seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.