

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

September 27, 2022 – 3:00 P.M.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on September 27, 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, and Ryan Zehr. Tommy Slaughter was absent.

Staff members present were Dale Wagoner, County Administrator; JR Powell, 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.

Lt. Col. Steve Eanes, Major Eric Hairston, Deputy Jason Keller, and Deputy Jeff Jones of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Bill Wyatt of the Martinsville Bulletin and Maddy Oliver of the Henry County Enterprise.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Adams 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 at 3:00 p.m. must contact the County Administrator's Office seven days before 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.

- August 23, 2022

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

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, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Garrett read aloud a resolution recognizing the 20th Anniversary of the Harvest Foundation (Copy included in Board file). It was seconded by Ms. Buchanan, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

Several representatives from the Harvest Foundation were present to receive the resolution.

Mr. Zehr read aloud a resolution recognizing the 20th Anniversary of the Dan River Basin Association (Copy included in Board file). It was seconded by Mr. Bryant, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

Executive Director Tiffany Haworth was present to receive the resolution.

Mr. Bryant read aloud a resolution recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Mount Olivet Ruritan Club (Copy included in Board file). It was seconded by Ms. Buchanan, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

Club President Bill McDaniel was present to receive the resolution.

Ms. Buchanan read aloud a resolution honoring Sandra Adams for her 32 years of service on the Board of Zoning Appeals (Copy included in Board file). Mrs. Adams has served on the BZA since its inception. It was seconded by Mr. Zehr, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

Sandra Adams was present to receive the resolution.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 94.38% of 2021 real estate taxes and 92.65% of personal property taxes had been collected. Since January 1, 2022, TACS has collected approximately \$40,516.61. In addition, there were 28 VRW stops collected in August 2022, and 11 were collected in September 2022.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: PART-TIME CLERICAL POSITION – CLERK OF COURT

Mr. Wagoner said Circuit Court Clerk Jennifer Ashworth is asking the Board to appropriate miscellaneous refunds and revenues of \$16,199 to cover expenses related to a temporary part-time employee for her office.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the additional appropriation of \$16,199 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: VIRGINIA AVENUE ENHANCEMENT PROJECT – DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING, AND INSPECTIONS

Mr. Wagoner said Henry County has received a grant from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) valued at \$82,500 for the installation of lighted signs and signalized crosswalks at the intersection of Virginia Avenue and Kings Mountain Road. The grant requires a local match of \$16,500. Staff is asking the Board to consider appropriating the match from its contingency fund and approving the attached resolution authorizing the County Administrator to sign documents related to the project (Copy included in Board's file).

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the additional appropriation of \$16,500 from the Board's contingency fund for this project and the proposed resolution by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Dillard expressed the importance of more youth getting involved with sports and extra-curricular activities, and he encouraged staff to look for ways to increase participation.

Mr. Bryant mentioned the success of the County fair and commented on media coverage of the event.

Debra Buchanan reminded everyone of the annual coat drive.

Mr. Wagoner said the County is now accepting nominations for the Outstanding Veteran of the Year Award. The deadline for nominations is October 21. The award will be presented at the Community's annual Veteran's Day ceremony on November 11 at 11:00 a.m. All the memorial signs honoring local police officers killed in the line of duty have been installed at the bridges. There will be a brief dedication ceremony during the 6:00 p.m. session of the October 25 meeting. The "back office" work continues on the broadband project. The project's initial phase will progress slowly as contracts and paperwork are finalized with RiverStreet Networks and Appalachian Power. In addition, Appalachian Power has to move the project through the regulatory process with the State Corporation

Commission before any construction can occur. It is anticipated to be at least six more months before construction begins, but it will move much faster once it does. We have also submitted a second grant application to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to fund phase two of the project.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Zehr moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:39 p.m. to discuss the following:

- A) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Blue Ridge Regional Library Board, Parks and Recreation Board, Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority, 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)29 for Discussion of a Pending Contract
- E) §2.2-3711(A)5 for Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries

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

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

NAYS: None.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 5:50 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, 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, and Mr. Adams.

Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority - On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the re-appointments of William Kirby, IV, and Sarah Hodges to terms ending October 31, 2026.

Patrick & Henry Community College Board - On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Timothy Stone to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2026.

Martinsville Southern Connector - On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved Henry County's participation in the collaborative effort with local business leaders to lobby for funding for the Martinsville Southern Connector route and appropriate \$10,000 from the General Fund to pay toward the cost of hiring Kemper and Associate for related lobbying services.

County Lobbyist - On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved hiring Julia Hammond with Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies as the County's lobbyist and appropriate the funds needed from the general fund at a monthly cost of approximately \$3,200.

Mr. Adams recessed the meeting at 5:57 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

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

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

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

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-22-16 – AMANULLAH SARWARY

Mr. Clark said the property is located at 57 Soapstone Road in the Horsepasture District. The Tax Map number is 50.7/44. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 3.48-acres from Agricultural District A-1 to Commercial District B-1. The applicant wishes to market the property for commercial purposes.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:04 p.m.

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

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

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ABANDONMENT, 40' X 50' TURN-AROUND ON PIONEER TRAIL

Mr. Clark said Michael L. and Brenda W. Craig are requesting the abandonment of a temporary 40' x 50' turn-around located between the addresses of 468 and 510 Pioneer Trail in the Collinsville District. The plan was for this turn-

around to be abandoned upon the completion of the road extension, and a new turn-around established by VDOT, which is now complete. The Craigs will have this 40' x 50' area combined with their adjoining lot, which will require an updated survey. Staff is of the opinion that there is no public necessity for the continued existence of this turn-around. VDOT has advised that they have no objection to this abandonment

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:06 p.m.

Mr. Bryant made this motion: "Be it ordained and resolved that a 40' x 50' temporary turn-around, on Pioneer Trail, in the Collinsville District, be vacated and abandoned. The turn-around is shown on survey entitled "Collinsville Highlands Subdivision" dated August 16, 1996, prepared by J.A. Gustin and Associates and is recorded in MB88, PG 748, in the Henry County Circuit Court Clerk's Office. This abandonment is subject to the rights of owners of any utilities previously installed." The motion was seconded by Mr. Zehr. The Board approved the abandonment as requested by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Mr. Justin Washer of the Blackberry District addressed the Board to discuss school security within Henry County. Mr. Washer also addressed the Board to discuss the speed limit in Stanleytown near Ace Hardware needing to be increased. Mr. Doug Stegall of the Collinsville District addressed the Board about school security.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Bryant moved to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Zehr seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.