

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

April 27, 2021 – 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on April 27, 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, Ryan Zehr, and David Martin.

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; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Lt. Col. Steve Eanes, Deputy Mike Wagoner, and Lt. Brian Lawson of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Bill Wyatt of the Martinsville Bulletin and Brandon Martin of 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.

Mr. Adams said the Registrar's Office requested to add an emergency relocation of a voting precinct item to the agenda. Since the revised agenda was not advertised within three days of the meeting, a motion would be needed to approve the revised agenda. Dr. Martin moved the Board approve the revised agenda, and Ms. Buchanan seconded it. The motion was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

ITEMS OF CONSENT:

Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings

Copy included in Board's File.

- March 23, 2021
- April 13, 2021

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

Dr. Martin moved to approve the Items of Consent, and Mr. Zehr seconded it. The motion was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF DR. ANGELINE GODWIN

Dr. Martin read aloud a resolution recognizing Dr. Angeline Godwin's outstanding service to our community as President of Patrick Henry Community College and moved the Board to adopt the resolution. It was seconded by Mr. Bryant, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

Dr. Martin, Mark Heath, and Tim Hall spoke briefly, praising Dr. Godwin for her service. Dr. Godwin said, "It was an honor and the love of her life to serve as President of Patrick Henry Community College."

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 91.90% of 2020 personal property taxes and 93.98% of 2020 real estate taxes had been collected. Since January 1, 2021, TACS has collected approximately \$386,822.45. There were 190 VRW stops collected in March 2021, and Ninety-four stops were collected in April 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).

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS – COMMONWEALTH CROSSING BUSINESS CENTRE (CCBC)

Mr. Hall said staff is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation totaling \$1,059,980 received from American Electric Power (AEP) and the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation (EDC). The refund of \$969,980 received from AEP will be used for additional development in the park, and the funds of \$90,000 received from the EDC will be used for professional engineering services.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the additional appropriation of \$1,059,980 for services and development at CCBC by the following vote:

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

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: BODY CAMERAS – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mr. Hall said Sheriff Lane Perry is asking the Board to award a sole-source contract in the amount of \$139,202 to Watch Guard Video to purchase body-worn cameras. The Purchasing Department has approved the sole-source contract because of the ability to integrate the body-worn cameras with the in-car cameras currently in use by the Sheriff’s Office. By using the same manufacturer, the Sheriff’s Office will be able to use the same storage solutions for both systems. Funding for this item is included in the capital improvement plan budget.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved awarding a sole source contract to Watch Guard Video in the amount of \$139,202 for body-worn cameras by the following vote:

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Hall reminded the Board of a special meeting on May 10, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. to adopt the 2021-2022 Budget.

Mr. Adams asked Board members for comments and suggestions on the FY '22 Budget. The Board did not recommend any changes to the proposed budget.

CLOSED MEETING

Ms. Buchanan moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:27 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, Community Policy and Management Team, Piedmont Regional Community Services Board, and Southside Community Action 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.

Mr. Bryant seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 5:00 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, and it carried by the following vote:

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

Mr. Adams recessed the meeting at 5:04 p.m. until the 6:00 p.m. evening meeting.

Mr. Adams welcomed everyone to the 6:00 p.m. 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-21-07-JARED P. HARRIS, REBECCA B. HARRIS, AND CHARLES M. HARRIS

Mr. Clark said the property is located in the southeast corner of the intersection of Old Sand Road and Pulaski Road, in the Ridgeway District. The Tax Map numbers are 62.5(73)/1-4. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of 4 lots, totaling approximately 24-acres from Industrial District I-1 to Agricultural District A-1. The applicant wants to use the property for residential and agricultural purposes.

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.

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

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

NAYS: Bryant

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-21-08- MATTHEW KENDALL

Mr. Clark said the property is located on the north side of A.L. Philpott Hwy, just east of 780 A.L. Philpott Hwy, in the Iriswood District. The Tax Map numbers are 56.1(1)B/6,7. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of 2 lots, totaling approximately 9.92-acres from Agricultural District A-1 to Limited Industrial District I-2. The applicant wishes to construct a building on the property to be used to manufacture and sell metal roofing.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:08 p.m.

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

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

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – RELOCATION OF THE IRISBURG (#303) VOTING PRECINCT

Mr. Hall said the Henry County Electoral Board is asking for emergency approval to move the Irisburg (#303) voting precinct from Freedom Baptist Church on Irisburg Road to the Galilean House of Worship on A.L. Philpott Highway. General Registrar Dawn Stultz-Vaughn was present to provide additional information to the Board. A public hearing is recommended before moving forward with the change to the ordinance. The public hearing has been properly advertised and is scheduled for this meeting.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:09 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:09 p.m.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the County ordinance to reflect the precinct change as requested by the Electoral Board by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

EMERGENCY CONSIDERATION OF RELOCATING FIELDALE (#201) VOTING PRECINCT

Mr. Hall said the Henry County Electoral Board is asking for emergency approval to move the Fieldale (#201) voting precinct from Rangeley Ruritan Club to Victory Baptist Church located at 1300 Dillon's Fork Road. General Registrar Dawn Stultz-Vaughn was present to provide additional information to the Board. If approved, the move would only apply to the Primary election in June. Should the Electoral Board and the Board of Supervisors wish to make this a permanent change, a public hearing will have to be held in the future.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:11 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the emergency request to relocate the Fieldale Precinct (#201) to Victory Baptist Church for the June Primary Election by the following vote:

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

PUBLIC HEARING – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION RE: SERVICES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Mr. Hall said working in collaboration with the West Piedmont Planning District Commission (WPPDC), Henry County is seeking funds from Virginia's Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Program. If funded, the WPPDC will work with localities and the Southern Area on Aging to provide restaurant meals and fresh produce to low-to-moderate income families in the region. The project will serve residents of Henry, Patrick, Franklin, and Pittsylvania Counties and the Cities of Martinsville and Danville. As part of the grant, the Board must hold a public hearing to allow citizens the opportunity to comment on the application.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:14 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:14 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Dr. Martin, the Board approved the resolution in support of the CDBG grant application by the following vote:

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

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Doug Stegall from the Collinsville District addressed the Board concerning speeding traffic in Fieldale. He also praised Andrew Kahle and Jay Gilbert for their efforts in getting the Fieldale pool operational.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED FY 2021-2022 SCHOOL BUDGET

Mr. Hall said we presented the FY 2021-2022 proposed budget on April 13, 2021. §15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia requires the Board to hold a public hearing to receive citizen comments regarding the contemplated school board budget. The public hearing has been properly advertised and scheduled for this meeting.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:19 p.m. Ms. Dorothy Carter of the Reed Creek District addressed the Board concerning her objection to the County using money received from the Sales and Use Tax for School Construction and Capital Projects to pay bonds for prior school construction. Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED FY 2021-2022 TOTAL COUNTY BUDGET

Mr. Hall said the FY 2021-2022 proposed budget was presented on April 13, 2021. §15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia requires the Board to hold a public hearing to receive citizen comments regarding the total County budget. The public hearing has been properly advertised and scheduled for this meeting.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:25 p.m. Ms. Sandra Haley from the Public Defender's Office serving Martinsville-Henry County and Patrick County, addressed the Board concerning the pay disparity between Commonwealth Attorney's Office and the Public Defender's Office. She felt the pay should be similar and the County should consider supplementing the salary of public defenders.

Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:29 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:31 p.m. Dr. Martin seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.