

VIRGINIA: A REGULAR MEETING FO THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ON MARCH 5, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR M. SHERLOCK HOLMES, CHAIRMAN
 SUPERVISOR JOHN M. SEWARD, VICE-CHAIRMAN
 SUPERVISOR ERNEST L. BLOUNT
 SUPERVISOR REGINALD O. HARRISON
 SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE

ALSO

PRESENT: MR. TYRONE W. FRANKLIN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
 MR. JOHN B. EDWARDS, JR., ASST. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
 MRS. MELISSA D. ROLLINS, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & TECHNOLOGY
 MR. WILLIAM HEFTY, COUNTY ATTORNEY
 MS. RHONDA R. MACK, COMMUNITY & DEVELP. DIRECTOR
 MRS. DEBORAH NEE, COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE
 MRS. VALERIE PIERCE, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES
 MR. LLOYD A. HAMLIN, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT

I. CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Holmes. Chairman Holmes asked for a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, he asked the citizens to stand and say the pledge of allegiance.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

- Approval of February 5, 2009 Minutes
- Approval of **February, 2009** Accounts Payable

		Additional	Total
General Fund	- \$ 16,009.78	\$ -	\$16,009.78
Debt Service	- \$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital	- \$ 10,276.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 25,276.00
Water & Sewer	- \$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	- \$ 26,285.78	\$15,000.00	\$41,285.78
- Approval of **March, 2009** Accounts Payable

		Additional	Total
General Fund	- \$136,540.62	\$ 17,379.20	\$153,919.82
Debt Service	- \$ 24,852.26	\$ -	\$ 24,852.26
Capital	- \$130,629.99	\$ 77,930.12	\$208,560.11
Water & Sewer	- \$ 13,863.34	\$ 1,865.56	\$ 15,728.90
Totals	- \$305,886.21	\$ 97,174.88	\$403,061.09
- Appropriation Requests – **March, 2009**
 - A. School System - \$1,450,000.00
 - B. Department of Social Services - \$ 150,000.00

Supervisor Harrison moved to approve the consent items as enumerated; Vice-Chairman Seward seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

III. PROGRESS REPORTS

A. VDOT

1. Mr. Dennis Heuer, Hampton Roads District Administrator

Mr. Franklin advised the Board that guest from the State (VDOT) was present to give the Board an overview of the State's proposed plans to reduce services across the State of Virginia. He asked Mr. Heuer to come forward.

Mr. Dennis Heuer, Hampton Roads District Administrator, appeared before the Board and showed a slide presentation (see attached) of VDOT's proposals to cut services across the State of Virginia due to the \$2.6 billion revenue shortfall. He highlighted on the following:

- Service reductions at the ferry (from 24 hrs. to 16 hrs.)
- Reduction in money coming into the Commonwealth.
- Reduce staff by 1,000 employees.
- 15% fleet reduction.
- 189 area headquarters maintained.
- 44 residences reduced to 29.
- 73 equipment shops reduced to 37.
- TOCs consolidated from 6.5 to 5 (integrated as call centers)
- Etc.

Discussion ensued among the Board members and Mr. Heuer regarding the reduction in the ferry services. It was noted that the ferry was a highway for the county. Vice-Chairman Seward suggested that VDOT consider cutting out the security services at the ferry. Mr. Heuer stated that the guards were implemented in 2004 and was a federal requirement mandated by Homeland Security. Mr. Franklin inquired who employed the security guards and what was the cost for this service? Mr. Heuer responded that the security guards were employed by the State and the cost was approximately \$1.6 million annually.

B. Treasurer

1. Investment Letter

Chairman Holmes stated that as of February 5, 2009, the county had \$15,685,136.87 in the LGIP Fund. He stated that as of January, 2009, interest

had accrued in the amount of \$17,858.96 increasing that balance to \$15,702,995.83.

Chairman Holmes stated that as of March 5, 2009, the county had \$15,702,995.83 in total investments.

2. Refund Request

Mr. Franklin stated that he had received a request from the Treasurer requesting a refund of Real Estate Taxes as noted below:

- **\$1,964.20 to Wachovia Mortgage Serviced by First American RE Tax Services for the overpayment of 2007 & 2008 Real Estate Taxes.**

Supervisor Harrison moved to approve the refund as noted above by the Treasurer; Vice-Chairman Seward seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

C. County Administrator

1. Presentation FY 07-08 Audit

Mr. Franklin advised the Board that Mr. Paul Lee from Robinson Farmer Cox Associates was present tonight to provide the Board a presentation of the FY 2007-2008 Annual Financial Report. He asked Mr. Lee to come forward.

Mr. Paul Lee of Robinson, Farmer Cox Associates appeared before the Board to give a presentation of the County's FY 2008 Annual Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2008. He stated that the report includes the County's transmittal letter followed by the Auditor's Report, Management's Discussion and Analysis, basic financial statements and other required information. He mentioned that the County had employed the services of a consultant to assist the County with SAS 112 compliance. Overall, the County completed the fiscal year in a healthy financial position with a general government fund balance of \$10.170 million. He mentioned that the capital projects fund was separated in the FY 08 report from the general fund to show the amount of funds designated strictly for capital projects. The only management report comment includes an immaterial difference between the beginning General Fund balance per the County's general ledger and the prior year audit report. He also stated that the County's tax rate collection percentage was 99.24%. No material weaknesses were cited.

Vice-Chairman Seward moved to accept the FY 08 Audited Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2008 as presented; Supervisor Lyttle seconded

the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

2. Broadband Implementation Project Report

Mr. Franklin advised the Board that Mr. Keith Hill of ICON Broadband Technologies (IBT) and Consultant Gateway Corporation were present to give the Board a report from the consultants on Phase II of the Community Broadband Planning Initiative Grant. He asked Mr. Hill to come forward.

Mr. Keith Hill of ICON Broadband Technologies (IBT) and Consultant Gateway Corporation, appeared before the Board and showed a slide presentation on the Phase II Final Report Implementation Plan (see attached).

He stated that funding for Phase I, Segment 1 of the proposed implementation plan totals \$389,778:

- VDHCD Grant funds - \$200,000
- County funds - \$100,000 (allocated in the FY 09 budget)
- County funds - \$ 89,778 (requires an additional local
Funding commitment in FY 10)

Included in the network capital costs for proposed fiber network are the premise installation and equipment requirements to serve seven (7) anchor customers. Additional numbers of business customers are projected at various subscriber levels (bandwidth amounts) to be served via direct fiber connections.

Mr. Keith stated that it was recommended that the county establish a county-wide broadband authority as authorized by the Code of Virginia, §15.2-5431.1 et. seq. (Wireless Service Authorities Act).

In conclusion, Mr. Hill stated that included in the stimulus package was significant money for broadband.

Discussion ensued among the Board members and Mr. Hill.

Vice-Chairman Seward moved to:

1. Accept the Phase II Community Broadband Planning Initiative report as presented.
2. Authorize staff to draft and submit the Local Innovation grant application in the amount of \$200,000 to the Virginia Department of Housing and

Community Development to support implementation of the Broadband Phase I recommendations (Town of Surry) in fiscal year 2009-2010.

3. Authorize the County Attorney to begin preparing documents related to the creation of a Broadband Authority in anticipation of grant approval and local funding;

Supervisor Harrison seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

4. Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation - Virginia Chesapeake Bay Implementation Program Grant

Mr. Franklin asked Ms. Mack to come forward and give the specifics of the agenda note.

Ms. Rhonda Mack, Community Development Director, appeared before the Board and stated that the county had received a \$5,000 grant from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation last year to aide in reducing pollutants to tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay through the pump out of septic systems for income qualified households. Ms. Mack stated that the grant assisted fifty homes, however, there is a waiting list. Per county ordinance, the county has to notify all residents within the Chesapeake Bay or Blackwater Basin that they need to pump out their septic system. The system has to be pumped out every five years.

She stated that the county had received correspondence advising of the grant agreements for the county from the Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation for the implementation of the septic system pump out program.

Supervisor Harrison moved to authorize the proposed agreement with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation for the Surry County Septic System pump out program for income eligible households; Supervisor Lyttle seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

5. CIP/Invoices for High School Renovation Work

Mr. Franklin advised the Board that he had received correspondence from the School System requesting payment to Ballou, Justice Upton Architects for additional professional services rendered relative to the high school renovation project.

• Additional professional services work -	\$13,000
Total -	\$13,000

Supervisor Lyttle moved to authorize payment to Ballou, Justice Upton Architects in the aggregate amount of \$13,000 as outline above; Supervisor Harrison seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

6. FY 09-10 Budget Presentation – School System

Mr. Franklin advised the Board that representatives from the School System were present to present the proposed FY 09-10 School System Budget.

Mr. Lloyd Hamlin, Division Superintendent, appeared before the Board and announced that Mrs. Monica Barnes, Finance Director will be presenting the budget.

Mrs. Barnes appeared before the Board and stated that a public hearing regarding the proposed school system budget was scheduled for next Tuesday, March 10th. The proposed budget includes the following:

- Decrease of total budget – 0.35%.
- No compensatory wage increase.
- Reduction of # in workforce.
- Receive level funding from the county.
- No compensatory wage increase.

She stated that she would be happy to entertain any questions that the Board may have.

Mr. Franklin advised the Board of the following dates relative to the school system budget:

1. March 10th – Proposed Public Hearing Date
2. March 1th - School Board Adopt the FY 09-10 School System Operating Budget
3. April 23rd – Action by the Surry County Board of Supervisors

7. Emergency Communications Agreement

Mr. Franklin asked Mr. John Edwards, Asst. County Administrator, to come forward and give the specifics of the request.

Mr. Edwards appeared before the Board and stated that during the Board of Supervisors December 4, 2008 meeting, the Board directed staff to work with the sheriff to develop an agreement between the county and the sheriff relative to the hiring of an emergency communications manager to oversee the operations of the county's emergency communications center. The Board also instructed staff to develop a job description and salary range recommendation for this position.

Mr. Edwards stated that attached for the Board's consideration was a draft agreement and draft job description. He noted that if approved, there are sufficient funds available in the emergency services budget to fund the position for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Supervisor Harrison moved to:

1. Authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement between the County and the Sheriff.
2. Approve the advertisement of the Emergency Communications Manager position as a grade 21;

Supervisor Blount seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

8. Resolution – Adopting guidelines for the use of the design build process to expand the Claremont Fire Station

Mr. Edwards stated that as authorized by the Board of Supervisors last fall, staff has been working to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) for design and construction services to expand the Claremont Fire Station. He stated that the RFP was recently completed and reviewed by the County Attorney.

He stated that during review of the RFP, it was determined that Virginia Code requires the Board of Supervisors to adopt a resolution prior to advertisement of the RFP in the event the Board desires to use the design-build process for the fire station. Mr. Edwards stated that staff recommends the design-build approach.

Supervisor Harrison moved to adopt a resolution for the use of the design build process to expand the Claremont Fire Station; Vice-Chairman Seward seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING-Zoning Ordinance Amendment Flood Plain District

Chairman Holmes called the meeting to order. He asked staff for the statement of the case. Mr. Franklin stated that the Surry County Board of Supervisors was conducting a public hearing tonight on a proposed ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Flood Plain District. If adopted, the proposed ordinance will repeal and reenact, Article Four, District Regulations, Section Eleven, Flood Plain District, of the Zoning Ordinance of Surry County to establish floodplain districts, require the issuance of permits for development and provide factors and conditions for variances to the terms of the ordinance.

Chairman Holmes opened the floor for public comments. He asked all persons wishing to speak to come forward and be recognized by the chair. There being no public comments, Chairman Holmes declared the public hearing closed. He asked for closing remarks from staff, there being none, he asked for discussion and remarks by the Board members. Supervisor Harrison inquired whether there had been any changes in the flood designation. Ms. Mack responded negatively. She stated that the FEMA had re-done the maps and the maps should be on line for easy access.

Supervisor Harrison moved to approve the Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Flood Plain District; Supervisor Blount seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

V. BOARD'S CONCERNS

Discussion ensued among the Board members, Mr. Hefty and Sheriff Brown regarding the circuit courthouse security.

Board members talked about the proposed coal power plant coming into the county. It was noted that one of the candidates running for Governor of Virginia will be at the Colonial Farmhouse on Saturday, March 9th at noon.

VI. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Mike Eggleston of the Blackwater Election District, appeared before the Board and commented on the sewerage system pump-out. He asked where it was going. He stated that the State Board of Health could not answer his question.

Mr. John Stokes of the Surry Election District, appeared before the Board and commented on the ferry. He stated that he travel across the ferry

several days a week and suggested that the county do a survey asking the citizens whether they wished to have the ferry service cut back or do away with the security?

Discussion ensued among the Board members relative to the security on the ferry. Vice-Chairman Seward asked the Board to appoint him as the spokesperson on behalf of the Board at VDOT's public hearing on March 17th. Supervisor Lyttle moved to appoint Vice-Chairman Seward as the Board of Supervisors spokesperson at VDOT's public hearing on March 17th; Supervisor Harrison seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.

Ms. Charlotte Elliott of the Claremont Election District, appeared before the Board and voiced her and other resident's dissatisfaction of the removal of the trash dumpsters in the Town of Claremont. She stated that the residents pay taxes in the Town of Claremont and Surry. Chairman Holmes commented that the Board had pondered over this issue for a long time. He stated that the problem was citizens coming from across the county line and abusing the dumpsite. He also noted that the dumpsters were on other property owners land. In conclusion, Chairman Holmes advised Ms. Elliott that the residents were not being double taxed. The towns have taxation power to handle town problems.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Harrison moved to continue the meeting until March 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.; Supervisor Lyttle seconded the motion; Supervisors Holmes, Seward, Blount, Harrison and Lyttle voted in favor of the motion.