

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1999, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE
WOODWARD BUILDING, SALUDA, VIRGINIA:

Present: Fred S. Crittenden, Pinetop District
Kenneth W. Williams, Pinetop District
John D. Miller, Jr., Saluda District
Lenora O. Weber, Saluda District
Frank Jessie, Jamaica District

Charles M. Culley, Jr., County Administrator
Michael T. Soberick, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Crittenden called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M., and opened with a prayer.

OPERATION THANKSGIVING

The motion to endorse the Operation Thanksgiving donation campaign by Bethlehem Star Lodge was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of September 7 and the minutes of September 21 as corrected was made by Mrs. Weber seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously.

DISBURSEMENTS

There was much discussion regarding the repair costs for sheriff's department vehicles. It was suggested that competitive bids be obtained for repairs estimated at over \$500.00. A cost analysis of repairs to vehicles in the Sheriff's Department was requested.

Approval of all disbursements was postponed pending further discussion of telephone and repair bills with the Sheriff.

PAYROLL

The motion to approve payroll for the month of September was made by Mrs. Weber, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 33445 through 33538 totaling \$138,335.57 were disbursed as approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Williams:

- Planning District Commission -- The quarterly dinner meeting included a program on the Oyster Heritage Program and continued discussion of the revolving loan program.
- Rappahannock River Basin Commission - Mrs. Jones was thanked for her coordination of the luncheon associated with the County's hosting the meeting.

Mrs. Weber:

- Social Services –The State has not accepted the Department's plan for eligibility workers investigating their own fraud cases. The State wants a dedicated worker to devote 12 hours per week on this task, with additional compensation. Mrs. Weber will review the proposal submitted to the State.

The potential conflict of interest under investigation has been eliminated by a letter received from the employee stating that he will no longer participate in outside consulting for private care providers.

- Communications Committee - At the regular Committee meeting, the Sheriff had appeared comfortable with the planned addition and the placement of dispatchers in a secure environment, with no direct contact with the public. At a later Candidate's Forum, the Sheriff stated he was not in favor of this plan. The importance of separating dispatch and equipment from the public was stressed and cooperation of the Sheriff would be requested. If necessary, the Committee should call a special meeting to obtain the Sheriff's input and reach a firm decision.
- Emergency Services - It was noted that the public had 60 days from the Declaration of Available Assistance to initiate a loan or grant process.

Mr. Jessie:

- Regional Jail – Emergency generators were supplied to Upper Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department and the County during the Hurricane.

- Chamber of Commerce - a candidate's forum for Chamber member's and guests has been scheduled for October 11th at the Cooks Corner Office Complex.

Mr. Miller: No report

Mr. Crittenden:

- Airport Committee - Wings and Wheels event was a great success with no problems with safety. The Board and County staff were thanked for their help with the event.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Treasurer:

Mrs. Wilson, Treasurer, was not present, but had prepared a report for the Board.

Sheriff:

The Sheriff was questioned regarding his position on the proposed addition and location of emergency dispatch. The Sheriff stated that while he was not opposed to the addition, it was his personal opinion that the public would prefer to have direct contact with the dispatcher. The Board stressed the importance of protecting the integrity of the system. The Sheriff commented that he would not impede the progress being made toward improving emergency communications in the County.

The Chairman requested competitive pricing for repairs exceeding \$500.00 on vehicles.

Reimbursement for a weapon sold to a deputy has not been received.

DISBURSEMENTS continued

The motion to approve disbursements dated October 5th for the month of September, was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 33539 - 33684, totaling \$258,469.70, were disbursed as approved.

INTRODUCTION OF EMPLOYEE

Mr. Culley introduced Kevin Jordan, hired as the County's E911/GIS Coordinator.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Six Year Secondary Improvement Plan - Department of Transportation Resident Engineer, Bill Sullivan, presented the proposed budget for the Saluda Residency for secondary road improvements for FY 00/01 through FY 05/06. The budget for the upcoming year includes \$74,900 for incidental improvements, \$301,527 for regular improvements and \$210,538 for unpaved road improvements. Suggested projects for inclusion in the plan include improvements to routes 631, 630, 637 and 604 (2 parts). Other projects could be added for partial funding.

Changes in the plan from the previous year include:

- The project on Route 636 is fully funded and under construction;
- The two projects on Route 648 are fully funded and under construction;
- The project on Route 604 has been divided into two projects for funding purposes.

A public hearing is scheduled for October 19, 1999 at 8:00 P.M. Projects may be added or removed from the priority list.

Rt. 636 - This project should be completed with this construction season. A 17 - 18% overrun is anticipated.

Rt. 629 - My Lady's Swamp - A 180' bridge is proposed for where the 10' x 12' box culvert had been.

Rt. 629 - Healy's Mill Pond - The Saluda Residency is receiving pressure to re-build the road with a drainage pipe in place, not replacing the dam.

SCHOOL MATTERS

Bond Sale - School officials are soliciting commitments for the bond sale.

Emergency Services - Plans to prepare the new school with emergency sheltering capabilities needs to be addressed now.

Condemnation - Has received calls from citizens opposed to condemnation of property for the new school. Superintendent Lackey believes there has been less opposition after concerned citizens receive the complete information.

VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

New Employee - Agent, David Moore introduced Donna Tuckey, Integrated Pest Manager for the region.

Drought - Because a contiguous county has received declaration of emergency status due to the drought, Middlesex is also allowed to participate. Farmers may apply for low interest loans. The motion to declare that a local state of drought emergency did exist was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mr. Culley presented plaques of recognition to several volunteers who went above and beyond the call of duty with regard to Hurricane Floyd and public assistance. Plaques were presented to amateur radio operators, Verland Hall, Eleanor Hall, Fay Smith and Peter Wright, for providing 24 hour communications between the emergency operations center and shelters, and to Carrie Nicholas, of the County staff, for her assistance with emergency operations and sheltering.

HEALTH INSURANCE

A presentation of two programs offered by Southern Health was made to employees on September 29th. A majority of the employees preferred to participate in Southern Health's personal choice program. Rappahannock General Hospital is listed as a participating hospital; Riverside-Walter Reed is not. The motion to participate with Southern Health for health insurance was made by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4-0-1 (Mrs. Weber abstained due to her position as Board Member with Rappahannock General Hospital).

CLOSED MEETING

The motion to convene in Closed Meeting, for the following purpose was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously: briefing by the County Attorney regarding pending litigation involving the airport, per §2.1-344.A7, Code of Virginia, as amended. Upon reconvening in open session, the following motion was made by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously:

- To the best of the members' knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Code of Virginia §2.1-344.7 and identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the public body.

Action:

As a result of the Closed Session, Mr. Soberick reported that Judge Shaw has granted no motions for a decision in the Board of Supervisors v. Nuckols case. The motion to authorize the County Attorney to make an offer to purchase the airspace, and if a favorable response is not received, then to proceed with condemnation proceedings, was made by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

CHANGE IN CHAIR

Chairman Crittenden was not present for the remainder of the meeting. Vice Chairman, Mr. Miller, conducted the meeting.

REQUEST FOR APPEAL

The motion to hear an appeal of the Planning Director's decision on an erosion and sediment control matter at the November 16, 1999 meeting, was made by Mrs. Weber, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously by those present. Notifications will be sent to adjoining property owners and public notice of the appeal proceeding will be placed in the local paper.

REQUEST TO WAIVE FEES

The motion to waive the building and zoning fees associated with the construction of a pavilion type structure by the Deltaville Civic Association was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Weber and carried unanimously by those present.

VOTING CREDENTIALS FOR ANNUAL VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES MEETING

The motion to appoint Mr. Williams as voting delegate for the County and Mr. Culley as the alternate, for the Virginia Association of Counties Annual Meeting, was made by Mrs. Weber, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

ALARM SYSTEM

Mr. Culley presented the quotes obtained from two alarm companies for providing panic, motion and fire alarms in the Courthouse (Courtroom and Clerk's Office), the General District Court Clerk's Office and sections of the Woodward Building. Quotes obtained last year by the Clerk's Offices were higher than the quotes received by Mr. Culley. The motion to accept the proposal from Richmond Alarm, to install the various alarms for \$7,062, with an annual monitoring fee of \$700, was made by Mrs. Weber, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

STAGGERED TERMS

Mrs. Weber volunteered to serve a two year terms to be required of two of the Board members, effective January 1, 2000. The Electoral Board will be consulted to see if Board members can volunteer for the shorter term, or if it has to be chosen by lot.

COOKS CORNER OFFICE COMPLEX

Mr. Culley advised that the School Superintendent desired to install a radio antenna to the outside wall of the CCOC, to provide better radio reception to be used as background for the telephone system. The Board concurred with Mr. Culley's decision not to allow the erection of an antenna.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled for October 19, 1999, at 7:30 P.M.

Fred S. Crittenden, Chairman
Board of Supervisors