

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2000, 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

Absent: Michael T. Soberick, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

The motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of [January 4](#) and the minutes of [January 18](#) as written was made by Mrs. Weber seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

DISBURSEMENTS

The motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 34582 through 34712 totaling \$157,123.03 were disbursed as approved. Mr. Crittenden expressed his concern regarding funding the communications project and suggested that the project be held. It had been proposed that a county-wide meals tax would provide the funding for this project, however, the referendum for the tax did not pass. Mr. Culley indicated he would review the contract to see if activity could be cancelled.

PAYROLL

The motion to approve payroll for the month of January was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 34484 through 34574 totaling \$140,389.16 were disbursed as approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Williams: No reports

Mrs. Weber: No reports

Mr. Jessie: No reports

Mr. Crittenden:

- [Airport Committee](#) - requested that County keep on the fast track with the tree lawsuit. Clearing of gravel and patching of hole needs to be done by VDOT as soon as possible.

Mr. Miller:

- Chamber of Commerce - formal disbanding of the Chamber will take place on May 1, 2000, unless new members are found to hold positions to keep the Chamber functioning. Board members were asked to seek volunteers for membership.
- Committee Appointments by Chairman - Mr. Miller requested all Board members to continue to serve on the various committees.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Treasurer:

Mrs. Bray, [Treasurer](#), presented the Board with a monthly report. Mrs. Bray informed the Board that Kathy Thrift has been hired to replace Jean Clark as deputy treasurer. Mrs. Clark will be retiring at the end of February, but has agreed to work two days per week to continue training Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Thrift. The Board requested a report of the additional compensation monies required for consideration at a later meeting.

Commissioner:

Mrs. Ebinger, [Commissioner](#), advised the Board of a feature of the latest reassessment. According to Mrs. Ebinger, a law passed in 1994 required that all mobile homes be assessed by appraisal firms during the assessment process, rather than by the Commissioner of Revenue. Because the County was in the middle of a reassessment at the time the law went into effect, it was not applicable until this assessment. Blue Ridge Appraisal has completed the assessment, including mobile homes, however, no notices of the values for mobile homes were distributed to the owners. In some cases, values have increased as much as three times the value placed on the home by previous commissioner. According to the law the Commissioner cannot make changes in the assessment and because a mobile home

is considered personal property rather than real property, no appeal can be made to the Board of Equalization.

The Board expressed their concern for not being made aware of this by the previous Commissioner and thanked Mrs. Ebinger for bringing it to their attention.

Sheriff:

Investigator Bowles updated the Board regarding activities being investigated by the Department.

Sheriff Abbott introduced Fran Shepherd, who is filling in as a part time secretary until a permanent replacement is hired. A new deputy for the Deltaville satellite office will be reporting for duty on February 14. Donna Brown, currently a part time secretary, will be working out of the Deltaville office and has also been sworn in to be able to serve papers. The Sheriff publicly thanked David Harmon and Gene Agnese for providing their four-wheel drive vehicles during the recent snow.

Closed Meeting:

The motion to convene in Closed Meeting to discuss a personnel issue with the Sheriff's Office, pursuant to §2.1-344.a1, Code of Virginia, was made by Mrs. Weber, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously. Upon reconvening in open session, the following motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Jessie 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.a1 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, there was no action taken.

APPROPRIATION

The motion approving the following appropriation was made by Mrs. Weber, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously: TO: 4-1-31020-5403, \$5,672.59; FROM: 3-1-23020-10, (for expenditure of DARE Contributions Received)

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Van Hedgepeth, Maintenance Supervisor, reported the activities of the Department relating to the recent snow events.

SCHOOL MATTERS

Exams - [Mr. Lackey](#) reported that exams had been cancelled, however, students would be given "assessment tests" and would be allowed to decide if the grade went toward their first or second semester average.

Request to Order Buses - The motion to authorize the ordering and purchase of two new buses at a total of \$102,934.00, was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Jessie. These buses would be funded from the 2000-2001 budget. Mr. Lackey will provide final costs for the buses once bids are awarded.

LOCKLIES CREEK DOCK

The motion to approve a request to install a light, meter and locked receptacle box at the public dock at Locklies Creek was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously. Responsibility for installation and payment of the service would be held by Arthur Kidd, boat captain. In addition, the Board requested that a sign be installed at the dock restricting the hours of operation to between the hours of 5 AM and 9 PM.

AUDIT REPORT

Irvin J. Farmer, of the auditing firm of Robinson, Farmer Cox, presented a review of the County's audit for the period ending June 30, 1999. A supplemental audit for the period of July 1 - December 31, 1999, due to the change in treasurer, would be forthcoming. Mr. Farmer also reported that current accounting practices would need to be changed to a fixed asset reporting policy, which must be in effect by 2003.

VIRGINIA PENINSULAS PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY

Executive Director, Steve Geissler, reported that the contract with Waste Management for collection of commercial waste would reflect an increase of 2.7% on April 1st. Mr. Geissler has revised the fee schedule to compensate for the increase, which was presented to the Board. The motion to adopt the revised fee schedule was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously. Mr. Geissler reported that the commercial waste program began with approximately 80 customers and currently has 110, five (5) who have suspended service for the winter.

CITIZEN COMPLAINT

Roy Bowman requested that there be better communication between the Animal Control Officer and citizens that are subpoenaed to court as witnesses for the County.

Mr. Bowman also requested that the Board install a sound system in the Court Room. Mr. Bowman was advised that there was a system in the Court Room, however, it has not been used by the judges. The motion to write a letter to the judges requesting that they use the system available was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

RECESS

Mr. Miller recessed the meeting until 1:30 P.M.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board reconvened to hear presentations of budget requests from the following agencies: Northern Neck Free Health Clinic, Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society, Laurel Shelter, Middlesex County Public Library, Chesapeake Bay Agency on Aging, Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Community Services Board, Sheriff's Department.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until the regular evening meeting scheduled for February 15, 2000, at 7:30 P.M.

John D. Miller, Jr., Chairman
Board of Supervisors