

**AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2003, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE
WOODWARD BUILDING, SALUDA, VIRGINIA:**

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Weber called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Mr. Crittenden opened with a prayer and Mr. Culley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

The motion to approve the minutes for April 1st and April was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously.

DISBURSEMENTS

The motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 45027 through 45176 totaling \$246,672.96 were disbursed as approved.

PAYROLL

The motion to approve payroll for the month of April was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 44929 through 45026 totaling \$175,122.44 were disbursed as approved.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Sheriff

There was no report from the Sheriff's Department; the Sheriff was out on sick leave.

Treasurer

The Treasurer reported that tax bills would be going out next week.

Commissioner of Revenue:

Mrs. Ebinger reported that assessments for properties on Hilliard's Mill Pond had been reduced because as of January 1, the properties were not waterfront because of the delay in the dam repair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Crittenden:

- Airport – The Airport Committee did not meet in April.

Mr. Jessie:

- Social Services – Training programs are being offered to 22 child care providers in the County. Mr. Jessie attended the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon
- Museum – did not attend this meeting.
- VACo Region 2 meeting – attended with Mr. Williams, Mr. Miller and Mrs. Weber.

Mr. Williams:

- Planning District Commission – Did not attend.

Mr. Miller:

- Planning District Commission – People in charge of specialized projects gave updates.

Mrs. Weber:

- Jail Board – Vote tomorrow on selling timber.
- Courthouse Project – construction is proceeding; to date 4 days added to contract due to weather.
- VACo Region 2 – the next meeting will be hosted by Middlesex County on October 8th, at the Piankatank River Golf Club. There was discussion on the possible creation of a rural caucus, created to get as much attention as larger counties.
- State Park – State officials are making their first review of sites under consideration, including Rosegill. Mr. Culley expressed his concern that the

State has the money to purchase the land, but no money to develop any of the sites into parks.

Mr. Culley:

- Courthouse Project – Pump and Haul – The contractor has requested that the County allow them to do preliminary construction on the parking area on the backside of the property. This is about two months earlier than anticipated, however, it will allow for storage of steel and provide an area for construction workers to park. It was agreed at the construction meeting that pump and haul would begin June 1st, estimated at two to three hauls per week. An ad has been placed in the newspaper in an attempt to get a reduced rate from a contract hauler. The contractor has since requested consideration in moving the date up to May 12th, which Mr. Culley has advised them that the County would have to be compensated for starting earlier than agreed at the construction meeting.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Resident Engineer, Marcie Parker, was present for the meeting along with Maintenance Supervisor, Tommy Purcell.

Six-Year Plan: There will be a videoconference presenting the proposed six-year plan on May 14th; the Commonwealth Transportation Board will meet on May 15th to discuss, and public hearings scheduled after that. The plan must be approved before July 1, 2003.

Norris Bridge: Delegate Pollard has requested the elimination of the passing zone on the Norris Bridge. According to Mrs. Parker, there have been no accidents on the bridge related to passing. It was the Board's consensus not to change the passing zone designation, however, they also noted that the speed limit needs to be enforced.

Radar Zone: Mrs. Parker has met with the Sheriff and State Police representatives regarding construction of a gravel police area that would be established in the area of the middle school for the police to sit and run radar. The area would be fenced off when not in use and it would be used only during the time when the school zone is in effect. This item was tabled for further discussion with the Sheriff.

Request for Reduced Speed Limit: The speed zone study recommends reduction of speed to 45 on parts of Route 629; this recommendation has been forwarded to the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

Hartfield Intersection: Signs are due to be installed by District personnel by June 1.

Cox Landing: Research indicates that this road did not come into the State system as a Byrd Act Road.

SCHOOL MATTERS

Budget Adoption – Board members discussed whether or not to appropriate the full school board budget or to adopt it by quarters, something that had been suggested at seminars board members had attended. Mr. Crittenden noted that there was no justification to change to a quarterly format; it would be better to keep a good relationship and lines of communication open. Mr. Crittenden suggested that the school budget balance be reviewed after the first semester. The motion to approve the following appropriation and requiring review after first semester was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously:

**2003-2004 MIDDLESEX SCHOOL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors has heretofore received a budget from the Middlesex County School Board; and

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors has held a public hearing for the School Board's Budget for fiscal year 2003-2004; and

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors has included funds in the County General Fund for School Operations Fund in the amount of \$5,664,798.00, and in the School's Textbook Fund of \$55,847.00, and in the School's Capital Improvement Fund of \$49,800.00, and

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County School Board has adopted a General School Fund Budget for the fiscal year 2004, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors hereby appropriates to the following categories the Middlesex County General School Fund Budget:

<i>Instruction</i>	<i>\$7,521,316.00</i>
<i>Administration, Attendance & Health</i>	<i>\$521,877.00</i>
<i>Pupil Transportation</i>	<i>\$666,566.00</i>
<i>Operation & Maintenance</i>	<i>\$977,768.00</i>
<i>Debt Service - Local Money</i>	<i>\$1,070,687.00</i>
<i>Total School General Fund</i>	<i>\$10,758,214.00</i>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors hereby appropriates to the School Food Fund, the School Textbook Fund, and the Capital Building Fund, the following amounts:

<i>School Food Fund</i>	<i>\$424,856.00</i>
<i>Textbook Fund</i>	<i>\$100,228.00</i>
<i>Capital Improvement Fund</i>	<i>\$49,800.00</i>
<i>Capital Building Fund - State Funds - Debt Service</i>	<i>\$244,236.00</i>

All members present and voting as follows:

Kenneth W. Williams	aye
Fred S. Crittenden	aye
Lenora O. Weber	aye
John D. Miller, Jr.	aye
Wayne Jessie	aye

Air Conditioning Gymnasium – According to Mr. Myers, School Superintendent, the School Board had approximately \$223,000 that could be used toward the project of air conditioning the gymnasium, four-room vocational wing and locker rooms. Mr. Myers will be bidding this project out with an alternate to use “duct sox”, a material that is less expensive to install. Mr. Crittenden suggested adding more lighting to the gym area.

East Wing – Mr. Myers had received estimates for new construction versus renovation of the east wing. New construction was estimated at \$125 per square foot, or \$1,100,000 - \$1,300,000 for the 11,000 square foot. Renovation costs to include a firewall, upgrading the electrical, new windows, heating and air conditioning, roof and tiles, had been gathered at a price of \$397,431; asbestos removal was estimated at \$27,500. Mr. Myers noted that this was a project that could be phased, with electrical and firewall work being part of the first phase.

Mr. Myers commented that the school system definitely needs the space and more, as classes were being added to next year’s program and enrollment is proposed to increase. Several Board members questioned why the School Board had not planned to need the space when the new addition was in the design phase. Mr. Myers explained that he could not address why the new space was not adequate because he was not involved in the project during the design phase. Mrs. Weber commented that she was not willing to appropriate any more money because it should have been take care of during the design. Other Board members were in favor of proceeding with a phased project. Mr. Crittenden commented that regardless of what was done, the class space that is left un-air conditioned could not be abandoned and not taken care of.

Parking Lot at High School – Mr. Culley has been working with Mr. Moore on a design plan for a paved parking area at the high school.

Lighting at the High School – It was suggested that something be done to turn the lights down on the new addition so as not to bother the neighbors. Mr. Myers commented that he had been told that the neighbors were pleased to have the school lights lighting their property.

When questioned about the parking area on the Sibley’s property, Mr. Myers commented that the School Board would be handling that.

PUBLIC ACCESS POINTS

Lewis Lawrence, regional planner with the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, addressed the Board regarding the status of the proposed agreement between Middle Peninsula counties, which would establish the Public Access Authority. Board members suggested that more local control needed to be added to the operating agreement and there was general agreement that Middlesex County should not participate. Concern was expressed that individual counties could not get out without incurring debt and that all votes have to be unanimous. Mr. Culley pointed out the inconsistency that the state has money to give away to acquire landings, but no money to maintain them.

Carlton Revere, the County's representative on the Planning District Commission, suggested that now was the better opportunity to make changes to the agreement rather than trying to join later. Mr. Lawrence suggested making several revisions and bringing it back to the Board – creating a service agreement that would allow each locality to get in at each opportunity that the authority is looking at incurring debt and not being responsible for any other locality's debt. Mr. Lawrence would send the revised information to Mr. Culley for his review.

REASSESSMENT

Mr. William Coulson, Tri-County Appraisals, was present to advise the Board on the status of reassessment – waterfront values are increasing 35 – 40%; other property values are increasing 12-14%.

APPROPRIATIONS

Sheriff Supply Refund – FROM: 3-1-18030-0001 \$125.00 TO: 4-1-31020-5401, \$125.00; appropriation of refund check for Sheriff's supplies. Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Crittenden, carried unanimously.

Dispatcher Salary – FROM: 3-1-24040-0900, \$6,217.00 TO: 4-1-31020-1009 to fund Sheriff's Part-time dispatcher compensation from E911 Wireless Grant funds. Motion by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Miller, carried unanimously.

Merrimac Center – FROM: 3-1-41060-0001 \$6,924.00 TO: 4-1-21050-3005 to fund budget over-runs at the Merrimac Juvenile Detention Center. Motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Crittenden, carried unanimously.

Family Oriented Group Home – FROM: 3-1-41060-0001 \$13,218.00 TO: 4-1-21030-5714 to fund budget over-runs at the Family Oriented Group Home (juveniles). Motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Jessie, carried unanimously.

LAWSON LEASE

The motion to approve leasing property adjoining the airport from Mrs. Evelynna Lawson, for the Wings and Wheels event, was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

RECESS

The Chairwoman called a recess at 11:30 for lunch. The Board would reconvene at 1:30 P.M.

ANIMAL SHELTER

Board members reviewed a letter from Frank Pleva, King William County, requesting a formal decision from the Board as to whether or not Middlesex County was still participating in the regional animal shelter. Mr. Culley presented the costs he had been able to obtain for an insulated metal building with garage doors and 4" concrete floor (\$65,000), runs (\$30,000), heating and air conditioning. Mr. Culley suggested using the Rappahannock Central property, with existing drainfields and sewage pumps that will be pulled from the courthouse system. Board members agreed that the concept was one to pursue and authorized Mr. Culley to work on bidding the project.

The motion to withdraw from participation in the regional shelter due to the extravagant costs proposed was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously.

SURPLUS SCHOOL PROPERTIES

Mr. Culley advised the Board of Supervisors that St. Joseph's Villa is interesting in entering a contract for at least a portion of the media center at either Wilton or Rappahannock, and may consider leasing the entire building. St. Joseph's is anxious to begin recruiting students for the 2003-04 school year.

The YMCA is still interested in leasing the Wilton media center for their programs. The media center could be separated off from the rest of the property; however, it would make getting rid of the property difficult. It was suggested that RCE media center could be rented to St. Joseph's for one (1) year and the YMCA could use the cafeteria and selling Wilton. It was noted that the YMCA had no back-up plan if Wilton was not available for their use.

Mrs. Weber requested that the YMCA be scheduled to meet with the Board at the June 17th meeting and suggested that Mr. Culley meet with the group prior to the meeting to discuss the possibility of leasing the RCE cafeteria.

The motion to lease the media center at Rappahannock Central to St. Joseph's Villa for a one (1) year period was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously. Mr. Crittenden suggested stressing the need for Middlesex County kids to be taken there for instruction.

APPOINTMENTS

Wetlands – The motion to reappoint Miller Smither to a five year term on the Wetlands Board, beginning on July 1, 2003, was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously.

Planning Commission – The motion to re-appoint J. D. Davis, Jan Dunlevy and George Harris to four-year terms on the Planning Commission beginning July 1, 2003, was made by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

Social Services – The motion to appoint Joan Harris to a second three-year term on the Social Services Board was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

Planning District Commission – The motion to appoint Carlton Revere to a one-year term on the Planning District Commission was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously.

SLUDGE

The Virginia Association of Counties is sponsoring a workshop on Sludge on June 16th in Hanover.

ROTARY LUNCHEON

Board members were reminded of the luncheon being sponsored by the Rotary Club on Wednesday, May 28th. This lunch is in conjunction with the Rotary's Ethics seminar. The motion to sponsor a table for \$100.00 was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

The motion to convene in closed session regarding personnel issues, pursuant to §2.1-3711.a1 and land acquisition matters, pursuant to §2.1-3711.a3 was made by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

Upon reconvening in open session, the following motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously:

- To the best of the members' knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Code of Virginia §2.2-3711.A.1 and §2.2-3711.A.3 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.

ADJOURN

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting was scheduled for May 20, 2003.

Lenora O. Weber, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors