AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2003, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE WOODWARD BUILDING, SALUDA, VIRGINIA:

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson, Mrs. Weber called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Mr. Williams opened with a prayer; Mr. Culley led the Pledge of Allegiance. It was noted that Mr. Soberick would be arriving later in the meeting.

MINUTES

A correction was made to the minutes of August 19th. The motion to approve the minutes of August 5th and August 19th was made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Miller and carried 4-0-1 for the first set (Miller abstained because of his absence from the meeting) and unanimously on the second set.

DISBURSEMENTS

Sewage treatment costs will continue throughout the next year as construction on the courthouse is completed; the package plant will take more time to construct at the plant than it will to erect in place. Gas probes have been installed at the landfill. Joyce Engineering will be applying on behalf of the county for relief from some testing requirements. Uniforms have been purchased for two part-time animal control officers, who are being paid one rate for being available and another rate to actually take a call; this arrangement is costing the county less than the one additional part time person on staff before. The motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously. Checks dated September 2, 2003, numbered 46135 through 46293 totaling $174,335.62 were disbursed as approved.

PAYROLL

The motion to approve payroll for the month of August was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 46002 through 46134 totaling $180,795.38 were disbursed as approved.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Treasurer

Mrs. Bray reported that the delinquent tax ad that was run in the local paper was blurry and not easy to read. Mrs. Bray suggested that the ad be run again and noted that enough money had been collected before the ad ran to pay for a second printing. Over 11,000 decals have been sold to date; Mrs. Bray will have a report that compares this number to last year. Mrs. Bray will be pursuing the issuance of passports by the County; a $30.00 processing fee can be retained by the County and she hoped the Board would pass at least a portion of the fee to her department to pay the employees for the additional work. Passports were previously handled by the Clerk of the Circuit Court, however, the fee had to be turned in to the State.

Commissioner of Revenue:

Mrs. Ebinger reported that the Personal Property book is ready for printing and billing as of September 1st, however corrections will continue to be made until the Treasurer is ready to print it. For the first time, values total over three million dollars, a $159,700 increase from last year. Land use letters will be going out during the week. Citizens were reminded of the state tax amnesty program in effect until November 3rd; all the penalty and one-half the interest from delinquent taxes will be waived.

Sheriff

Sheriff Abbott was not available, however, it was requested that his department provide a report on the number of tickets issued for missing or out of date decals.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Weber:

- Sludge – reported that the State Department of Health will be allowing companies to store sludge in the fields 14-60 days. Statewide approval has been given for this; thinks it needs to be a county option. Mr. Miller noted that the new policy was not mentioned at the biosolids workshop he had recently attended. Mr. Culley was requested to send a letter of opposition to the Department of Health and General Assembly representatives.

Mr. Crittenden:

- Social Services – no report
- Airport Committee – no quorum at last meeting; nothing to report
- Schools – bids for repair of roof at St. Clare Walker had been received and a contract let for air conditioning work at the high school gymnasium. Only one bid was received for work on the firewall; this project has been re-bid and the Building Official has granted an extension on the work.

Mr. Jessie:

- Social Services – a new receptionist has been hired and there has been some in-house movement of people.
- LGOC – attended meetings on Homeland Security and media relations.
- Rural Caucus Meeting – was mostly about southwest Virginia.

Mr. Williams:

- LGOC – Homeland Security Office made 70 recommendations to the Governor; 60 have been implemented.
- Planning District Commission – there was no meeting in August.

Mr. Miller:

- Dragon Run Steering Committee – Nature Conservancy is buying up land.
- Whitings Creek Dredging – watched dredging of Whitings Creek with representatives of Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Quality.
- LGOC – water plan.
- Fees – Mr. Williams and Mr. Miller will be attending a meeting on September 15th regarding fees being charged by state agencies with no opportunity for public comments. Mr. Miller questioned what is stopping any state agency from establishing fees.

Mrs. Weber:

- CPMT - $178,000 left in the FY 03 budget; now currently serving 5 kids (foster kids) down from 22. There are three Middlesex students at Bay School.

- Jail – denied connection to the new Sydnor water line.
- Courthouse Construction – project is three (3) weeks behind; hope to be under roof by Christmas.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Assistant Resident Engineer, Sean Trapani, was present for the meeting.

Primary Road Pre-Allocation Hearing: Scheduled for September 23, Caroline County.

Hilliard's Mill Pond: The County should proceed with sending a bill to the Department of Transportation to refund their portion of the project.

Mowing: Mowing on primary roads is complete; working on secondary roads.

Crossover Widening: The widening of the cross over at Route 33 and Route 620 should be done this week..

Wings and Wheels: Mr. Trapani offered VDOT assistance with Wings and Wheels, indicating that his department needed to know the needs.

Accident Reports: Mr. Crittenden reminded Mr. Trapani that he had not received the accident report mentioned at last month's meeting.

Route 630 : It was reported that Mr. Ogle has talked with the Board's representative on the Commonwealth Transportation Board and has recommended approval of the project; Mrs. Parker has also briefed Mr. Baily about the project and he recommends approval.

Johnson Grass: According to Mr. Trapani, VDOT sprays first those counties that have a Johnson grass ordinance in effect. He also indicated that the County's Extension Agent has to be responsible for it and that it would help the State budget by sending some money down.

BAY AGING – REQUEST TO WAIVE REAL ESTATE TAXES

The motion to deny waiving the real estate taxes for housing projects by Bay Aging and its development agency was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board members reviewed information supplied by Wythe Davis, the General Registrar of Williamsburg regarding the State Board of Elections recent decision to shelve the Virginia Voter Registration System (VVRS) that was in development from 1998-2001 and 90-95% complete and ready for implementation, for a new system to be developed from the "ground up" using federal dollars from the Help America Vote Act. Board members suggested sending a letter to State representatives opposing this decision.

VIRGINIA'S RIVER COUNTRY DUES

The County did not fund a contribution to Virginia's River Country last year because it was uncertain as to whether the State would contribute to the group; money has since been received from the State. The motion to appropriate funds to pay the dues for FY 04 was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

TOURISM COUNCIL ADVERTISEMENT

The motion to fund a one-page advertisement in the Tourism Council handout for $1,420.00 was made by Mr. Jessie, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATIONS

The motion to approve the following appropriation requests was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously:

FROM: 3-1-18030-0006, $321.00 TO: 4-1-31020-5407. Appropriation of insurance reimbursement to sheriff's account for vehicle repair.

FROM: 3-1-18030-0006, $3,491.44 TO: 4-1-31020-5407, $2,777.16 and 4-1-12190-5305, $714.28. Appropriation of insurance reimbursement to sheriff's account for vehicle repair and reimbursement to insurance company for overpayment.

FROM: 3-1-23020-0041, $603.00 TO: 4-1-31020-5409. Appropriation of grant funds received – in and out.

APPOINTMENTS

The motion to recommend Amos Carver as a replacement for Alor Traywick on the Tidewater Soil and Water Conservation District Board was made by Mr. Crittenden,

seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously. Mr. Carver is to be contacted to see if he approves of being recommended.

The motion to support the reappointment of the following representatives subject to their acceptance was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously:

Chris Massengill – Bay Aging Board of Directors
Chris Jones, John Waldrop, Larry Hardwicke – Airport Committee
Matthew Fleet – Tidewater Resource, Conservation & Development

MIDDLE PENINSULA – NORTHERN NECK COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Executive Director, Frank Tetrick, presented the performance contract and budget between the Community Services Board and Middlesex County. The motion to accept the documents as presented was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously. Mr. Tetrick announced that he would be accepting the position as Assistant Director of Community Services for the State on October 6, 2003.

TREE REMOVAL

The motion to contract with Quality Tree Removal for removal of a dead tree and stum in the courtyard was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously. Prices had been received from Quality for $1,400 and from Robert Brown for $2,700.00

VIRGINA 4-H WILDLIFE

No action was taken regarding a request for sponsorship of the Virginia 4-H Wildlife competition.

YMCA LEASE

Mr. Culley reported that the YMCA would like to begin work in November, with the lease not beginning until January. It was noted that language referring to purchase of the property should be struck from the proposed lease. Mrs. Weber and Mr. Miller noted that they wanted to wait until the report from the Health Department was received. Further discussion was tabled.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

School Maintenance: Mr. Soberick reported that the meeting with the school superintendent and school counsel had gone well and they were receptive to handling the maintenance issues, including submission of a monthly report. The Superintendent will talk with the architect regarding errors and omissions. The School Board does not wish to spend $8,000 for additional work to the fuel pump area at the high school because it will not really fix the problem. Currently the assistant principals are the ones that handle maintenance issues. It was suggested that the schools should look at getting someone who is trained and can deal with warranty issues. It was also suggested that the schools could get maintenance contracts to provide service. Mr. Crittenden suggested getting something in writing as to how the schools are going to handle the issue. The School Board is exploring the cost issues at this time.

Rosegill Property: The Rosegill property has made the short list of properties being considered for a new state park; the other two properties are located in Gloucester.

Trim: Mr. Williams requested that prices be obtained to take care of the trim work of the Courthouse and Woodward Building. Mr. Culley noted that he had been trying to get prices and would like to cover the trim with vinyl.

ADJOURN

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting was scheduled for September 16, 2003.

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Lee O. Weber, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors