

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2007, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE
WOODWARD BUILDING, SALUDA, VIRGINIA:

Present: John D. Miller, Jr., Saluda District
Kenneth W. Williams, Pinetop District
Wayne Jessie, Sr., Jamaica District
Fred S. Crittenden, Pinetop District
Robert A. Crump, Saluda District

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by the Chairman, Mr. Miller. Mr. Jessie led the group in prayer; Mr. Culley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

The motion to approve the minutes from the meetings of April 3rd, April 17th, and April 26th was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

Governor's School participants from the High School made a presentation of their activities to the Board.

DISBURSEMENTS

The motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Mr. Crittenden seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 58252 through 58337 totaling \$117,674.89 were disbursed as approved.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Sheriff

Christian Foster was present to represent the Sheriff's Department.

Appropriation Requests: Each appropriation was carried by unanimous vote:

Finger Printing Reimbursement - \$370.00 FROM: 3-1-23020-0050 TO: 4-1-31020-5412. Motion to approve by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Williams.

Fuel – FROM: 3-1-41060-0001, \$21,000.00 TO: 4-1-31020-5408. Motion to approve by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Jessie.

Vehicle Repair Restitution – \$1,676.89 FROM: 3-1-23020-0048 TO: 4-1-31020-5407. Motion to approve by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Williams.

Verizon Phone Rebate – \$50.00 FROM: 3-1-23020-0048 TO: 4-1-31020-5407. Motion to approve by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Jessie.

Treasurer and Commissioner of Revenue:

Mrs. Bray, Treasurer, and Mrs. Stephenson, Commissioner, encouraged the Board to set the tax rates as soon as possible.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Resident Administrator, Marcie Parker, was present representing VDOT.

Budget: There has been a slight increase in the funding approved by the State.

Signal – Routes 3/33: Signal was energized last week.

Rt. 615: Starting to building in May and June; should finish after July.

Healy's Mill: Will begin repair on Healy's Mill washed areas and turn lanes in June, after asphalt contracts have been awarded.

Rt. 620/33 Signal: An updated study was performed and new traffic engineer has determined that a signal is not justified. Work will continue on widening the median. Board members discussed appealing this decision.

SCHOOL MATTERS

Athletic Complex:

Chris Valdregi, Principal at the High School and Jackie Taylor, School Board member, were present to request the Board's endorsement of a fund raising campaign for a new athletic complex at the high school. An estimated \$1.5 million is needed for an 8-lane all weather track, new fencing, bleachers and press box, 6 lighted tennis courts, baseball field with lights, field house with storage, softball field refencing, 2 concessions/restroom facilities and site work. It is requested that the complex be named the Syd Thrift Memorial Athletic Complex and the track to be named the John Douglas Lemons, Jr., Track. Revenue would be obtained through a letter writing campaign to Major League Baseball players and officials with ties to Mr. Thrift, matching grant opportunities with the NFL, USTA, Nike, USSA, MLB and donations to the Friends of Middlesex County Public Schools.

Board members questioned whether there is enough land for the complex as proposed. The motion to approve payment for a survey that has been done was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously. With the Board's endorsement, the project will proceed with architectural and engineering services to prepare a plan and determine if there is enough land. The Board endorsed the project.

Budget Comments:

Mrs. Dawson reported that enrollment is currently at 1297 with a budget based on 1279. Mrs. Dawson also commented that she disagreed with the Board's comments made at the public hearing on the school budget. She noted that the County's ability to pay is in the top 15%, however, funding for teacher salaries is at the bottom. Mrs. Dawson also noted that after previous budget discussions with the Board of Supervisors and School Board she had informed some staff that some positions may be cut, but at no time did she tell them they would not be employed. Mrs. Dawson suggested that the Board needed to trust the School Board and their administration.

Board members commented regarding low teacher moral and the false information that was given to teachers. School Board member Jackie Taylor indicated that there were other reasons for teacher morale to be low. School Board Chairman, Dr. Shores, stated that morale was high in the schools. Mr. Williams indicated stated that he believed that administrative salaries were still too high.

Mr. Crittenden asked if there would be any return of funds from the current budget, which Mr. Goforth has previously indicated could be as high as \$50,000.00. Mrs. Dawson stated that that report would come some time in June.

AIRPORT MATTERS

GPS Approach:

Jamie Barnhardt and Jim Snider were present to represent the Airport Committee, and to request the Board's support for re-opening the GPS approach to Runway 1 at the airport. The first phase would be to survey the area to see how many properties are involved for obtaining easements. The second phase would be obstruction identification and removal. The motion to proceed with finding the cost involved in the surveys was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

Hangar Project:

The motion to approve funding for redesign and rebid of a proposed hangar at Hummel Field, by the LPA Group was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously. A cost for these services was established at \$6,000.00.

Tree Cutting:

The motion to award a contract to Whispering Tree Service for \$10,300.00 to remove 49 tree obstructions from the north end of the runway was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously. Proposals had also been received from Quality Tree Service - \$19,400.00 and Tree Top Service - \$19,600.00. State funding for 66% reimbursement is expected.

BAY AGING

The motion to approve a resolution in support of a second phase of apartments by Bay Aging was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously. Lighting adjustments have been made to reduce glare at the first phase.

RESOLUTION

BAY AGING

Section 202 – Elderly Apartments

WHEREAS, Bay Aging is submitting an application for funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program for the purpose of building and operating up to 24 additional apartments (including 12 apartments in Port Town Village Phase Two and 12 apartments in Port Town Village Phase Three) in Middlesex County, Virginia, for persons 62 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, studies have substantiated the need for such housing in Middlesex County; and

WHEREAS, housing of this type will have a substantial positive impact upon the housing needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, it is a goal of the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors to assure an adequate supply of affordable, appropriate housing for all citizens of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses the applications of Bay Aging for funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program.

BOB JENSEN

Board members gave their endorsement to Mr. Jensen's artificial reef project for growing oysters.

RAPPAHANNOCK CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

Mr. Culley had been approached by a realtor with a client interested in purchasing the old Rappahannock Central Elementary School. The Board agreed that at this time the property is not for sale.

ELEVATOR REFINISHING

Mr. Culley discussed a proposal received for refinishing the elevator doors in the new courthouse. The lacquered finished had been removed by some type of cleaning agent and the surfaces are also scratched. The motion to approve refinishing the stainless steel elevator for \$2,366.40 and the two bronze surface elevators for \$3,998.40 was made by Mr. Crittenden, seconded by Mr. Crump.

APPOINTMENTS

The motion to reappoint R. D. Johnson to the Dragon Run Steering Committee was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Williams, and carried unanimously.

The motion to recommend Carolyn Moss for reappointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Williams, and carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board members presented their reports of individual committee meetings.

BUDGET ADOPTION

Board members agreed to set a date and time of May 3rd at 1:30 p.m. for adoption of the County and School budgets.

NEW BUSINESS

Board members asked if clearing of the landing at North End had been completed. A surveyor has been hired to mark off the County's property so that the property can be cleared.

CLOSED MEETING

The motion to meet in Closed Session to discuss items related to consultation with legal counsel, pursuant to Code of Virginia, §2.2-3711.A3, was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously. Upon reconvening in open session, the following motion was made by Mr. Crump, 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 §2.2-3711.A3 as identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the public body.

Action:

There was no action as a result of the Closed Session.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Crump reported that there was an opening in the Forestry Department and suggested a letter of recommendation be written for Alan Sutherlin.

RECESS

There being no further business, the meeting was recessed until the budget adoption meeting scheduled for May 3rd at 1:30 p.m.

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