

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, SALUDA, VIRGINIA:

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman, Mr. Williams, called the meeting to order and led the group in prayer. Mr. Culley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

The motion to approve the minutes from the meetings of November 4th and November 18th was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Jessie and carried unanimously.

DISBURSEMENTS

The motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Crump and carried unanimously. Checks numbered 63424 through 63537 totaling \$119,311.91 were disbursed as approved.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Treasurer

Betty Bray, Treasurer, was present. Mrs. Bray reported that tax money has started coming in. Mrs. Bray has been asked about changing the collection date for taxes and noted that changing the date would be more involved than just adopting an ordinance.

Mr. Williams thanked Mrs. Bray and other constitutional officers for submitting their information on proposed budget cuts, but suggested that each officer try harder to find potential savings within their departments.

Commissioner of Revenue

There was no report from Mrs. Davenport.

Sheriff:

Sheriff Abbott reported that has been working with Senator McDougal to have court cost money returned to the County.

Mr. Crittenden requested the Sheriff's support with regard to changing the way transportation costs are divided at the regional jail. Currently, transportation is handled by the regional jail and costs are divided equally between the localities even though it is each Sheriff's responsibility to transport inmates to their court facilities.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Assistant Resident Administrator, Joyce McGowan, was present to represent the Highway Department.

Route 620/33 turn lane: work is scheduled to begin June 1, 2009.

Route 669, Brandon Point: Work has begun on this road and should be completed by the Spring.

North End Road & Route 652: repairs are on the maintenance schedule for the spring; concentration has been placed on repairs to the primary roads.

Town Bridge Road turn lane: a turn lane at this road has been submitted for consideration; don't know where funding will come from.

SCHOOL MATTERS

Superintendent Rusty Fairheart was present to represent the School Board and gave an updated report.

BAY AGING

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

RESOLUTION
BAY AGING
Restoration of Funding

WHEREAS, Middlesex County's 65 years-plus population will exceed 32.7% of the total population by 2030; and

WHEREAS, Middlesex County's older population is and will be greater than that of the state and national average for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, Bay Aging is the service provided for this older population and other adults with disabilities in Middlesex County; and

WHEREAS, Bay Aging does not have sufficient resources to meet the current and projected needs and consistently works to raise funds to meet the needs of this growing older population; and

WHEREAS, we know the economy has been severely debilitating, causing Virginia's Governor to enact millions of dollars in budget cuts that endanger Middlesex County's frail, elderly and hungry population;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors requests all local, state and federal officials to call upon the Governor and Members of the General Assembly to restore current year budget cuts. Specifically we ask the General Assembly to overturn the Governor's Plan to Reduce the Bay Aging Appropriation for Core Services \$18,961 that would eliminate 6,320 meals through Meals on Wheels and other essential services such as senior transportation, home care and more; and Appropriations for Adult Day Health Services (adult day care) by \$29,779 which would mean a loss of 662 days of service for the 24-hour a day caregivers who want to avoid costly and premature institutionalization of their loved ones.

MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

No action was taken regarding a proposal from Otis Elevator to extend the current maintenance agreement for five years. Mr. Culley was asked to obtain the hourly cost for maintenance and travel.

ADDITIONAL CLOSING DATE

The District Court of Virginia has granted employees of the General District Court an additional day of leave – December 31st. Mr. Culley asked the Board to consider granting leave to the Circuit Court employees also, allowing the entire building to be shut down, saving the costs of heating/cooling and the cost of security and maintenance personnel. Mr. Williams expressed his opposition to the suggestion, noting that the building needed to remain open in order to serve the public. The motion to allow closing the building on December 31st in addition to days already granted was made by Mr. Crump, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Williams).

APPOINTMENTS

No action was taken regarding appointments.

PRIVATE BILLING

Board members continued discussion of a request from Water View Fire Department to endorse their request to contract with a firm that would bill insurance companies and citizens for response to vehicle accidents. Mr. Culley noted that he had contacted several insurance companies who stated that the State and/or County would have to adopt an ordinance to allow insurance companies to offer this coverage, which would increase premiums.

All Board members noted that they understood the intent of the Department to raise funds, but did not agree with this mechanism. There was no vote taken.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board members presented their reports on committee activities. It was noted that Middlesex County has a large number of foster children. Mr. Culley encouraged Social Services representatives to be careful of approving funding for subsidized adoptions. If the State does not provide funding, it becomes 100% locally funded.

Airport hangars are being rented.

BUDGET REVIEW

Following a recess for lunch, the Board returned to a discussion of the current budget, where cuts have been made and where future cuts may be necessary. Board members were provided with information submitted by departments and constitutional officers with regard to budget shortfalls.

The Airport Committee would be consulted with regard to possibly not having an attendant on duty every day. It was noted that the Sheriff was already \$14,734.00 over budget in a vehicle line and would have to make up for an additional \$17,000.00 in state budget cuts.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Statute of Limitations: Mr. Soberick will draft a policy to set a time limit for receipt of written comment following a public hearing when action is tabled.

Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department: Joe Moschetti asked that the Board still consider additional funding for the fire departments. Mr. Moschetti noted that his department is barely breaking even on fund raising attempts; additional funding will be needed to replace equipment.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn the meeting until December 16, 2008 was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Crump and carried unanimously.

Kenneth W. Williams, Chairman
Board of Supervisors