

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2002

At a reconvened meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and the Pulaski County School Board held on Monday, April 8, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, Board Room, 143 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia, the following supervisors were present: Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman; Dr. Bruce L. Fariss, Vice-Chairman; Charles E. Cook; William E. "Eddie" Hale; and Frank R. Conner. School Board members present included: Paul Phillips, Chairman; Jeff Bain; Beth Nelson, Ray Saltz and John Wenrich. Staff members present included: County Administrator, Peter M. Huber; Assistant County Administrator, Nancy M. Burchett; School Superintendent, Dr. Donald Stowers; and School Board Clerk, Jean Cox.

### 1. Call to Order:

Board of Supervisors' Chairman Sheffey called the meeting to order and welcomed the School Board members and staff. He then reviewed the budget work session schedule of meetings of the Board of Supervisors.

### 2. Presentation of FY 03 County Budget

County Administrator, Peter Huber, presented to the Board of Supervisors four (4) FY 03 budget options for the Board to consider with three (3) of the four (4) options requiring additional tax increases. Mr. Huber also provided the Board with budget projections for the next five years. Further, he noted the reduction in state revenues for next year to be \$561,184 with additional state reductions expected in FY 04, 05 and 06. Other budget areas reviewed and discussed by Mr. Huber, included future school building needs, a personnel bonus savings incentive program, the need to maintain appropriate reserve funds, and the need for a budget contingency amount.

In closing, Mr. Huber advised the Board needed to consider advertising for public hearing a possible real estate tax increase for the year 2002 as soon as possible in order for the first half real estate property tax tickets to be ordered and processed in a timely manner prior to the June 5, 2002 payment deadline.

The Board requested staff to provide the following additional information:

- A listing of other counties/ localities that do not have a vehicle decal tax;
- Confirm the projected revenues for the transient/occupancy tax for FY 03;
- Provide a schedule of the county's long-term debt to include the school debt; and
- Determine other localities that have an employee bonus incentive program.

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### 3. Pulaski County School Board Presentation

#### ◆ FY 03 Budget Request

School Board Chairman Phillips thanked the Board of Supervisors for the opportunity to present the School Board budget for FY 03. He spoke briefly regarding the need for the school system to provide adequate training and to retain qualified teachers, and noted the present shortage of qualified teachers. He then requested that Dr. Donald Stowers, School Superintendent, present the FY 03 School Board budget request.

At this time Dr. Stowers reviewed with the Board of Supervisors the following strategic goals and expenditure needs for FY 03:

- Goal 1 – Aligned Curriculum
- Goal 2 – Quality Employees
- Goal 3 – Adequate Funding
- Goal 4 – Quality Facilities
- Goal 5 – Open Communications
- Goal 6 – Professional Development

Dr. Stowers reported the additional local dollars requested from the Board of Supervisors for the School Fund next year to be \$4,149,009. He then provided answers to several questions regarding carryover funds from FY 02 to 03; the number of students moving into and out of Pulaski County; number of teacher eligible for retirement; amount of reduced state funding for FY 03; and kindergarten enrollment history.

#### Scheduling of Public Hearing on Possible Increase in the Real Estate Tax Rate for 2002

Board members discussed at this time the need for scheduling a public hearing on a possible increase in the real estate tax rate for tax year 2002. The Board also discussed a possible bond referendum on school building needs for November 2002 and concluded this date would not allow enough time to educate the public on this matter.

Supervisors' Fariss and Cook advised they were opposed to a tax increase at this time. Supervisors' Conner and Hale reported they thought a public hearing on the matter was appropriate in order to receive public reaction to a possible increase in taxes.

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It was then moved by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried, to advertise a public hearing on a possible increase in the real estate tax rate for the year 2002 by \$0.08 cents per \$100 of assessed value from the current rate of \$0.62 cents per \$100 of assessed value to \$0.70 cents per \$100 of assessed value at the April 29, 2002 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Voting yes: Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Hale and Mr. Conner.

Voting no: Dr. Fariss and Mr. Cook.

#### 4. Consent Item:

- Randolph Park Concessions

This matter was deferred until the closed meeting session.

#### 5. Closed Meeting – 2.2-37711.A.1.3.5.7

It was moved by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried, that the Board of Supervisors enter closed session for discussion of the following:

Property Disposition or Acquisition - Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)3 discussion for consideration of the disposal or acquisition of publicly held property regarding:

- Old Hiwassee School

Personnel – Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)1 discussion for consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of public officers, appointees or employees, regarding:

- None

Prospective Industry – Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)5 discussion concerning a prospective business or industry, or the expansion of an existing business and industry, where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

- Renfro Building

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Legal Matters – Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)7 consultation with legal counsels and briefing by staff for discussion of specific legal matters and matters subject to probable litigation regarding:

- River Course Agreement
- Randolph Park Concessions

Voting yes: Mr. Sheffey, Mr. White and Mr. Conner.

Voting no: Dr. Fariss and Mr. Cook.

Return to Regular Session

On the motion of Mr. Hale, seconded by Mr. Conner and carried, the Board of Supervisors returned to regular session.

Voting yes: Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Hale and Mr. Conner.

Voting no: Dr. Fariss and Mr. Cook.

Certification of Conformance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act

It was moved by Dr. Fariss, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried, that the Board of Supervisors adopt the following resolution certifying conformance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Pulaski County, Virginia, has convened a closed meeting of this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act:

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Pulaski County, Virginia hereby certifies to the best of each members' knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in this motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board of Supervisors.

Voting yes: Dr. Fariss, Mr. Cook, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Hale and Mr. Conner.

Voting no: none.

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Legal Matters:

\*Randolph Park Concessions:

On the motion of Dr. Fariss, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried, the Board of Supervisors approved the award of the Randolph Park concessions to Graffitti's, per committee recommendation and subject to a review of the procurement process by the County Attorney.

Voting yes: Dr. Fariss, Mr. Cook, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Hale and Mr. Conner.

Voting no: none.

6. Other Matters:

The Board requested staff to confirm the appropriate height of the American flag in front of the County Administration Building and place a spotlight on the American flag.

7. Adjournment

It was moved by Dr. Fariss, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried that the Board of Supervisors adjourn to reconvene on Monday, April 15, 2002 for a budget work session. The next regular meeting is set for April 29, 2002, 7:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 143 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, NW, Pulaski, Virginia.

Voting yes: Dr. Fariss, Mr. Cook, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Hale and Mr. Conner.

Voting no: none.

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Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

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Peter M. Huber, County Administrator