

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 29, 2002

At a regular reconvened meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, April 29, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, Board Room, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia, the following members were present: Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman; Charles E. Cook; William E. "Eddie" Hale; and Frank R. Conner. Absent: Bruce L. Fariss, Vice Chairman. Staff members present included: County Administrator, Peter M. Huber; Assistant County Administrator, Nancy M. Burchett; David Tickner, Community Development Director; and Gena T. Hanks, Executive Secretary.

1. Invocation

The invocation was delivered by Reverend Terri Sternberg of Trinity Lutheran Church.

2. Additions to Agenda

Chairman Sheffey requested Mr. McCarthy present and describe a news release issued by the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) concerning titling of vehicles sold by the former Hudson's Chevrolet. Mr. McCarthy read aloud the press release from the DMV and copies were made available to interested citizens.

3. Public Hearings:

- a. Proposed increase in the real estate tax rate for the year 2002 of up to \$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. This public hearing will be held pursuant to Section 58.1-3007 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended.

Chairman Sheffey explained the purpose of the public hearing.

The county administrator provided charts describing the distribution of housing values, impact of real estate increase, and changes in real estate taxes.

Chairman Sheffey opened the public hearing and called for citizen comments on the proposed real estate tax rate increase.

Jackie Freeman spoke in favor of a tax increase and encouraged the Board of Supervisors to consider the need for new schools, as well as the economic impact new schools would have on Pulaski County.

Timothy Dalton spoke in opposition to the tax increase for the purpose of improving schools and requested the Board consider renovations to the existing schools. Mr. Dalton suggested consolidation of the two existing middle schools located in Pulaski County.

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Joel Burchett spoke in favor of the proposed tax increase, citing needed improvements to Claremont School. Mr. Burchett presented a number of concerns over safety issues currently existing at Claremont School.

Ed Hoggatt spoke in opposition to a proposed tax increase and suggested the Board consider a business professional occupational license tax. Mr. Hoggatt also noted he would like to see the sales tax increased.

Lynn Clark spoke in favor of a tax increase and urged the Board to not delay in approving money for the building of new Claremont and Northwood schools.

Thomas Simpkins noted he was not a supporter of taxes, but was committed to the school system. Mr. Simpkins commended county staff for keeping expenses down, or below requests, and noted the need for improvements to existing schools. He expressed appreciation to the Board of Supervisors for the new Snowville School.

Jan Booker presented concerns regarding safety issues existing at Claremont School and urged the Board of Supervisors to move forward with the rebuilding of a new Claremont School.

Janice Carter thanked the Board of Supervisors for the new Snowville School. Ms. Carter advised she is in favor of a tax increase for the purpose of rebuilding new schools in Pulaski County.

Jeffrey Reeves spoke in favor of a tax increase and expressed concerns about the current conditions of existing older schools in Pulaski County. Mr. Reeves expressed concern regarding taxing of agricultural producers.

Kevin Meredith spoke in favor of a tax increase for the purpose of building new schools and expressed concerns regarding the conditions of the existing older schools in Pulaski County.

Sam Witt spoke in opposition to a tax increase and advanced he had compared Pulaski County with surrounding localities and believes Pulaski County does not need to raise its taxes.

Michael Scott spoke in favor of a tax increase and cited inadequate facilities at Claremont School. Mr. Scott commended the Board of Supervisors for the newly rebuilt Snowville School.

Jan Akers spoke in opposition to a tax increase. Ms. Akers advised she had visited all of the schools in the county and noted the need for improvements to Claremont School. Further, Ms. Akers advised she is in favor of a \$5 increase on the decals, and/or a tax on cellular phones.

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Chris Davidson expressed concern about the delay in renovating or rebuilding deteriorating schools in Pulaski County. Further, Mr. Davidson expressed concern regarding graduating students from Pulaski County High School leaving the community after graduation for employment outside of the county.

Justin Underwood spoke in favor of a tax increase and expressed concern regarding the risks students face due to deterioration of school facilities.

Carolyn Carper thanked the Board for allowing an opportunity to speak before the Board. Further, Ms. Carper expressed concern regarding the deterioration of older schools, as well as requested the Board consider giving senior citizens some type of tax break.

Kim Stoots spoke in support of building a new Claremont School and expressed concern regarding the safety of students attending the school.

Francis Viars spoke in opposition to a proposed tax increase. Ms. Viars expressed concern about the current unemployment in the county. She further requested senior citizens be given some form of tax break.

Wally Flinchum spoke in opposition to a proposed tax increase. Ms. Flinchum advised the current deterioration of schools could be remedied by renovations to the schools.

Nathan Phillips expressed concern regarding the current conditions of existing older schools, as well as concerns regarding students leaving the area after graduation from Pulaski County High School.

Sybil Atkinson spoke in favor of a tax increase of no less than four percent.

Terri Fitzwater-Palmore expressed concern about the current conditions of existing older schools and further advised she is not opposed to a tax increase. Ms. Fitzwater-Palmore encouraged citizen support of the Board of Supervisors.

E. W. Harless spoke in opposition to a tax increase and noted support of school teachers.

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Pauline Oakley spoke in opposition to a tax increase and expressed concern regarding funds spent for the development of the parks in the county including Randolph Park. Ms. Oakley requested county staff develop an itemization of funds spent on the improvements to the County Administration Building, the parks and the other various projects funded by the county.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Chairman Sheffey provided a personal history of Pulaski County, and sited education as a top priority. Further, Chairman Sheffey advised school improvements are underway and will be part of a long-range plan.

Supervisor Cook expressed concerns that the initial proposal by the School Board had increased substantially over the course of the project. Mr. Cook advised the Board of Supervisors had been given the responsibility to chart the course of rebuilding schools, which should include a total plan on how schools should be built.

Supervisor Conner expressed concern about increasing any tax in the county, but declared the need for the rebuilding of Claremont School to begin immediately.

Supervisor Hale advised he is in favor of the rebuilding of Claremont School and that education was a priority. He further advised it was important for the Board to make the public aware of the importance of education.

Chairman Sheffey suggested the Board consider a four-cent real estate tax increase.

On a motion by Mr. Hale, seconded by Mr. Conner and carried, the Board approved a four-cent per \$100 tax increase on the real estate tax in Pulaski County, and noted the increase in taxes will fund the rebuilding of a new Claremont School for the next two years.

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

Voting no: Mr. Cook.

Not present: Dr. Fariss.

Supervisor Sheffey suggested the Board review the additional school needs in November 2003.

- b. A rezoning request by **Vernon R. & Mary W. McCoy** from Residential (R) to Agricultural (A1) on property identified by tax map no. 028-001-0000-0015A, 15B, 16, (1.920 acres), located at 6640 Hickman Cemetery Rd., (Rt. 624), Cloyd District.

Community Development Director David Tickner explained the request and advised the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Chairman Sheffey opened the public hearing on this matter.

Mr. Mack Farmer, representing the McCoy family, requested the Board approve the request.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried, the Board approved the rezoning request from Residential (R) to Agricultural (A-1) to conform to the adjacent Agricultural (A-1) zoning district, as recommended by the Planning Commission.

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

Voting no: none.

Not present: Dr. Fariss.

- c. A request by **Ethan Allen** for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow one 8,000 gallon above ground fuel oil tank on property identified as tax map parcel 056-001-0000-058A, (28.03 acres), zoned Industrial (I1), located at 4825 Cleburne Blvd, Draper District.

Community Development Director David Tickner explained the request and advised the Planning Commission recommended approval. He added that he had checked with the Department of Environmental Quality, as requested by Dr. Fariss, and determined that a dyke would not be required for the tank.

Supervisor Hale questioned the potential for runoff from the property.

Chairman Sheffey opened the public hearing on this matter.

Mr. Carl Reese, representing Ethan Allen, requested the Board approve the request.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

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On a motion by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Conner and carried, the Board approved the request, as recommended by the Planning Commission, to allow installation of one 8,000 gallon above ground fuel storage tank to allow on-site storage of a secondary fuel source for operation of the boilers identified on the site plan.

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

Voting no: none.

Not present: Dr. Fariss.

- d. Request from **Dennis Lee and Anita Lynn Mabe Reed and Joann D. and Roy J. Jones**, to vacate a portion of a 30 ft. unimproved right-of-way adjoining the western boundary of tax map parcel 039-001-0000-0086 and the eastern boundary of tax map parcel 039-001-0000-0085, located east off **Long Way (Rt. 705)** previously advertised as Rt. 703, zoned Residential (R3), in the Cloyd District.

Community Development Director David Tickner explained the request and advised the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Chairman Sheffey opened the public hearing on this matter.

Ms. Anita Reed expressed support for the requested plat vacation.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Mr. Hale, seconded by Mr. Cook and carried, the Board approved the request, as recommended by the Planning Commission, subject to: Revision of the title of the plat as follows: *"Plat Showing Vacation of an Unimproved Portion of Long Way and Utility Easement for Pulaski County Sewerage Authority and Peppers Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority"*; and 2) Recordation of plat in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Pulaski County, Virginia upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

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

Voting no: none.

Not present: Dr. Fariss.

- e. Adoption of Ordinance Pursuant to Section 58.1-3222 allowing for proration of property taxes for property razed, destroyed or otherwise damaged.

County Administrator Peter Huber explained the proposed ordinance and recommended adoption by the Board.

Chairman Sheffey opened the public hearing on this matter.

There were no citizen comments; therefore, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Conner and carried, the Board adopted the following ordinance:

ABATEMENT OF LEVIES ON BUILDINGS RAZED, DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY FORTUITOUS HAPPENINGS.

BE IT ORDAINED that pursuant to Section 58.1-3222 of the *Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended*, tax levies shall be abated on buildings which are (i) razed, or (ii) destroyed or damaged by a fortuitous happening beyond the control of the owner. No such abatement, however, shall be allowed if the destruction or damage to such building shall decrease the value thereof by less than \$500.00, and no such abatement shall be allowed unless the destruction or damage renders the building unfit for use and occupancy for thirty days or more during the calendar year. The tax on such razed, destroyed or damaged building is computed according to the ratio which the portion of the year the building was fit for use, occupancy and enjoyment bears to the entire year. Application for such abatement shall be made by or on behalf of the owner of the building to the Pulaski County Commissioner of the Revenue within six months of the date on which the building was razed, destroyed, or damaged.

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

Voting no: none.

Not present: Dr. Fariss.

f. Adoption of Ordinance Regarding Exercise of Joint Powers Regarding Purchase of Health Insurance Coverage.

Assistant County Administrator Nancy Burchett explained the proposed ordinance and recommended adoption by the Board.

Chairman Sheffey opened the public hearing.

There were no citizen comment; therefore, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried, the Board adopted the following ordinance:

NEW RIVER VALLEY JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of the 1st day of July, 2002, by and between local governments and other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia which are signatories hereto, hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Political Subdivisions"; and

WHEREAS, the Political Subdivisions are each authorized by law to provide group life insurance, accident and health insurance and other employee benefits programs for their officers and employees; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code §15.2-1300 provides that any power, privilege or authority exercised, or capable of being exercised by a political subdivision in the Commonwealth of Virginia may be exercised and enjoyed jointly with any other political subdivision of the Commonwealth having a similar power, except where express statutory procedure is otherwise provided for the joint enterprise; and

WHEREAS, said Code section authorizes two or more political subdivisions to enter into agreements with one another for such joint action and to appropriate funds and sell, lease, give or otherwise supply such property, personnel or services therefor as legally empowered to furnish; and

WHEREAS, the Political Subdivisions, pursuant to the authority granted in Code sections 15.2-1300, et seq. or such similar authority as may from time to time be authorized under the Code, desire to enter into a joint powers agreement and associate as members hereunder for the purposes, among other things, of promoting the interest and welfare of the members and developing a closer relation among them; and

WHEREAS, the Political Subdivisions now seek to exercise jointly, and continue to exercise jointly, their respective powers and authority to provide employee benefit programs, including, without limitation, accident and health, medical, dental and vision care, either by insurance or by service providers, and in pursuance thereof to enter into the purpose set forth.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the undertakings hereinafter stated, each of the Political Subdivisions agree one with the others as follows:

1. **Name.** The undertakings of the Political Subdivisions hereunder shall be named and designated as the New River Valley Benefits Consortium (hereinafter NRV Consortium or the Consortium).

2. **Term of the Agreement.** This Agreement shall be for a term of one year from the date hereof and shall thereafter be automatically renewed, subject to annual appropriation by the Political Subdivisions, for the same period for the Political Subdivisions who are initial or supplemental signatories hereto pursuant to resolution or ordinance which do not withdraw as hereinafter provided. At such time as the Political Subdivision parties to the Agreement shall be reduced to less than two in number, this Agreement shall terminate in its entirety and any funds or other property of the undertaking remaining at such time, shall, after payment of all debts, including provisions for all unpaid claims, shall be distributed to the last remaining signatories in such proportion as the Board shall, in its sole discretion, deem fair and equitable.
3. **Purpose of the Agreement.** The Political Subdivisions enter into this Agreement for the purpose of acting jointly to promote the interest and welfare of, and develop close relationships with, similar public bodies, and from time to time, to procure from qualified insurers and other providers, such employee benefits as designated by the Political Subdivisions for its or their officials and employees, active or retired, including, without limitation, group life insurance, health and accident insurance, hospitalization, medical, dental and vision care insurance and other professional services, collectively "the Employee Benefits".
4. **Governance.**
 - (a) **Advisory Board.** The Consortium shall be governed by an Advisory Board (the "Board") consisting of one representative duly appointed by each Member Political Subdivision. The Political Subdivisions may also appoint a secondary representative who may attend all meetings of the Board but shall not have voting privileges unless the primary representative of the Member shall be absent. The Board shall have power to decide all matters relating to the Consortium's activities and operations subject to the provisions set forth herein below. The Board may create subcommittees to investigate, consider and recommend action to the Board.
 - (b) **Meeting of the Advisory Board.** The Board shall meet quarter-annually at such times and places within the Commonwealth of Virginia as shall be

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designed by the Board. Special meetings may be held on the call of the Chairman or Vice Chairman and, not more than twice during any calendar year, by any Political Subdivision. Ten days' notice in writing to all political Subdivisions shall be given in advance of all Board meetings and notice of any special meeting shall specify the business or issue to be presented at such meeting.

- (c) Officers of the Board. At the meeting of the Board in the fourth quarter of each year, it shall elect from its primary Political Subdivision representatives, a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer each for a term of one year, or until a successor shall have been elected and qualified. The Chairman shall preside at all the meetings of the Board and in his absence, the Vice Chairman shall preside. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall serve in the same capacity for any subcommittee of the Board. Vacancies in such offices may be filled by the Board at any quarterly meeting. If applicable, a representative of the Administrator shall serve as the Board's Secretary/Treasurer but without vote.
- (d) Quorum. Two-thirds (2/3) of the total Consortium membership shall constitute a quorum for any Board meeting.
- (e) Actions by the Board. All matters for action by the Board, by motion or resolution or otherwise, may be presented to the Board by any Political Subdivision and may be adopted upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3 or more of the total Consortium membership on a one vote per Political Subdivision basis; provided, that the adoption of any action, motion or resolution affecting the plan design, to award a contract to any provider or vendor of any employee benefit program or allocation of any administrative or consulting fee may be adopted only upon favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3 or more of the total possible vote allocated in accordance with the benefit plan or plans affected ("Enrollment Voting Rights") as follows:

<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Vote Count</u>
Less than 100 employees enrolled	1
100 but less than 250 employees enrolled	2
250 or more employees enrolled	3

Employee shall be defined as any full or part time benefit eligible employee and includes COBRA and retiree participants that are former employees. Enrollment voting rights shall be determined annually on July 1st. A Political Subdivision's vote count may be changed during the plan year if its number of enrolled employees changes by ten percent (10%) or more during the plan year and the Political Subdivision notifies the Board in writing of such change prior to the following meeting.

- (f) Consultants and Other Experts. The Board, on behalf of the Consortium, may retain the services of consultants and other professional assistance in connection with any benefit plans or other programs sponsored by the Consortium.
- 5. Medical Coverage. The purchase of medical coverage through the Consortium is a requirement for Consortium membership. Individual Political Subdivisions are responsible for payment of their share of all premiums directly to insurers, reinsurers, third party administrators and other providers of service for medical coverage. An equitable formula for allocating the costs of medical coverage shall be determined by the Board. All Political Subdivisions agree to pay premiums to the carrier in a timely manner. All Political Subdivisions understand the terms of the carrier contract regarding late premium payment and are responsible for their own late payment penalties.
- 6. Other Benefit Programs and/or Services. The Consortium may vote to explore collective purchasing opportunities for new benefit programs and/or services at any time. Such programs may be voluntary employee paid or contributory (employer subsidized in part or in whole) as deemed appropriate by Consortium members. Consortium members may decline participation in any new programs. An equitable formula for allocating the costs of other benefit programs or services shall be determined by the Board.
- 7. New Members. In addition to the initial Political Subdivisions, other political subdivisions may apply to join the Consortium and membership shall be subject to the approval of the Board. Such prospective member shall be granted membership only upon acceptance of a financial proposal for such membership, together with such conditions as the Board shall impose, including enrollment

voting rights and allocation of applicable consulting, administrative and other fees of such new member. Acceptance of such conditions and adoption of the Joint Powers Agreement is dependent upon the appropriate action of such applicant's governing body by resolution or ordinance.

8. **Withdrawal From Membership.** A Political Subdivision may terminate participation in any employee benefit program or other product of the Consortium in which the Political Subdivision is a participant upon notice delivered to the Board or its designated administrator four months prior to the next renewal date for such program or product. Such terminating Political Subdivision shall no longer have any right to vote on any matter required or taken in relation to the program or product in which it is terminating participation as of the date of such termination notice if the matter being voted upon is applicable to the Consortium beyond the actual termination date of such terminating Political Subdivision. In the event a Political Subdivision shall have terminated participation in the medical coverage program of the Consortium, its membership in the Consortium also shall be terminated and it shall not be entitled to purchase other coverages or services through the Consortium., however, termination shall not release or in any way mitigate any obligation of such terminating Political Subdivision in respect to its proportionate share of the costs and expenses of the Consortium or its cost for its medical or other coverage for any such plan or product for the remainder of the contract term.
9. **Change of Eligibility Requirements.** Political Subdivisions will notify the Board or its designated administrator immediately of intent to change eligibility requirements for employees/retirees which may affect any contract or program and such proposed changes shall not be effective until analyzed and coordinated with the appropriate carrier or supplier to determine the financial or other impact, if any, on any such contract or program, and approval by the carrier or provider and the Board.
10. **Expenses of the Consortium.** The expenses of the Consortium, including fees of the Administrator, consultants or other professionals shall be borne by each Political Subdivision proportionately as shall be equitably determined by the Board.

11. **Administrator.**

- (a) The Board may, in its discretion, engage and appoint an Administrator for the Consortium. Except as may be limited in this Agreement or by the Board, the Administrator shall have full authority to act on behalf of the Political Subdivisions in connection with the undertakings specified herein, and to issue requests for proposals and receive such proposals as authorized by the Board and to take such other actions as may be deemed necessary or convenient in connection therewith, including without limitation, to the extent necessary to enter into master agreements for insurance services whereby the Political Subdivisions may receive separate benefits or services pursuant to certificates issued under such master agreements or insurance policies.
- (b) The Administrator is authorized and empowered on behalf of the Political Subdivisions to comply with the applicable provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement Act for and on behalf of the Political Subdivisions to the extent such joint action is not inconsistent with Virginia law. All funds and property received by the Administrator shall be maintained separately and apart by the Administrator for the sole use and benefit of the Political Subdivisions and may, if legally permissible, be carried by the Administrator and designated as the property of the Consortium.
- (c) The Board may direct the Administrator to solicit other political subdivisions in the Commonwealth to join as parties to the Agreement for one or more of the undertakings in connection with the several employee benefits which may be procured and supplied under the Agreement. Acceptance of such other political subdivisions as members of the Consortium shall be only in accordance with the other provisions of this agreement. Except for the reasonable cost of the undertakings incurred by the Administrator hereunder and the Administrator's compensation for its services hereunder and the proportionate cost for the services or insurance procured, the Administrator shall not create or incur any liability for the Political Subdivisions, jointly or severally, except upon express written authorization from the Board or the Political Subdivisions.

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- (d) The Administrator's Compensation. The Administrator shall be entitled to receive for its services hereunder such compensation as shall be mutually agreed by the Board and the Administrator. The Administrator's reasonable expenses incurred in connection with its services hereunder shall also be reimbursed by the Consortium.
 - (e) Fidelity bond. The administrator shall obtain and maintain insurance against dishonesty or infidelity of any officers, employees or agents of the Administrator acting within the scope of its or their authority in such amount as shall be reasonably required by the Board in relation to the monies which are in its custody.
- 12. **Exculpatory Provisions.** The Administrator shall not be liable to the Political Subdivisions except for acts or omissions constituting gross negligence and willful misconduct.
 - 13. **Indemnification.** None of the parties hereto shall be liable for any separate independent duty or obligation of any other Political Subdivisions hereunder and each agrees to indemnify the others for any claim, loss or damage and expense therefor as shall be sustained by such others, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of or the result of such separate independent duty or obligation of the indemnifying Political Subdivision.
 - 14. **Execution of Multiple Originals.** This Agreement may be executed by the Administrator and by one or more of the Political Subdivisions in the multiple original copies and, when so executed, deemed to be the agreement of, and shall be binding on, all such signatories. The Political Subdivisions have each caused this Agreement to be executed for and on its behalf, by its duly authorized officer pursuant to ordinance if a member county, city or town, or resolution if another political subdivision, effective as of the date first above written.

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

Voting no: none.

Not present: Dr. Fariss.

4. Highway Matters:

The Board met with Resident Engineer Dan Brugh and Assistant Resident Engineer John Thompson regarding the following highway matters:

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a. Follow-up from Previous Board meeting:

1. Request for Speed Study on Rt. 788, Jennings Rd., Rt. 787, Peak Creek Road, and Rt. 644/763, Hurston Road

Mr. Brugh advised the speed study had not been completed.

2. I81/Rt. 100 Exit Ramp Distance Concerns

Mr. Brugh advised he will attempt to secure funding for the improvements and expected the costs to be approximately \$40,000 to accommodate some drainage work that will need to be done.

b. Board of Supervisors Concerns

Mr. Brugh presented concept drawings for building an overpass between Rt. 747 and Rt. 11. He reported the costs are expected to be approximately \$1.5 million, with 10% of the funding to be taken out of secondary road allocation and the majority of funding to come from Norfolk Southern Railroad and Federal Government Railroad Safety funding. VDOT will continue to develop and provide a status report as needed.

Mr. Brugh advised VDOT had received revised projects on the secondary system and expectations for a reduction in funding, but not at the magnitude that was presented in early 2002. He further advised the six-year plan will not need to be redone at this time.

Mr. Brugh reported the Memorial Bridge construction continues to be ahead of schedule with the opening expected to occur in August 2002.

Supervisor Sheffey requested consideration of Pulaski County signage for Memorial Bridge. Mr. Brugh advised of plans to erect the signage once construction of the bridge is completed.

Supervisor Conner inquired as to the Black Hollow Lane improvements schedule. Mr. Brugh advised the project has been approved, is in the system and should be built sometime this year.

Supervisor Conner inquired as to the status of the improvements to Hatcher Road. Mr. Brugh advised the project contract is currently in the Richmond VDOT office, with advertising of the project expected to occur in late 2002.

Supervisor Hale advised of bridges being rough on Robinson Tract Rd. and Little River Dam Road.

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Supervisor Cook inquired as to the status of resurfacing of Peak Creek Bridge. Mr. Brugh advised VDOT will determine what can be done to improve the bridge.

Supervisor Cook inquired as to the status of improvements to Stilwell Road. Mr. Brugh advised VDOT will review and provide a status report at the Board's May 20 meeting.

Supervisor Sheffey inquired as to the construction schedule of School House Lane. Mr. Brugh was requested to provide the Board with an estimated construction date at its May 20 Board meeting.

Supervisor Conner thanked VDOT for repair to shoulders along Cougar Trail Road.

c. Citizen Concerns

Ms. Ruth Lancaster expressed concerns regarding the steep hill just before turning onto Owens Road and requested VDOT consider placing guardrails along the road. Mr. Brugh advised VDOT will review the matter and provide an update at the May 20 Board meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rose Marie Tickle presented a monthly report.

6. Citizens' Comments

Mr. E. W. Harless thanked Board members and county staff for a "job well done".

7. Reports from the County Administrator & Staff:

◆ Scheduling of Budget Advertisement

Mr. Huber thanked Treasurer Rose Marie Tickle for working with county staff in preparing tax tickets in a timely manner.

Supervisor Sheffey requested the Board consider reinstating the proposed funding for the fire truck and rescue squad. County staff was requested to arrange to have the fire truck, rescue squad and school bus that are being replaced to be brought to the May 13 Board meeting at the County Administration Building for viewing by the Board members.

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8. Items of Consent:

On a motion by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Conner, the Board approved the items of consent as follows, except for item "a", with action noted as follows.

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

Voting no: none.

Not present: Dr. Fariss.

a. Deed of Release – Vest & Wright, Inc.

Staff was directed to check specifics of the agreement, provide Board members with pictures of the area developed and place the matter on the May 13 Board agenda.

b. Hiring of Animal Shelter Architect

The Board approved hiring of Reynolds Architects to work in conjunction with the Bacon Group. Further, staff advised of an April 30, 2002 Animal Shelter Advisory Committee meeting to be held jointly with Giles County officials.

c. Appointments – Recreation Commission

The Board appointed Monty Brown to the Recreation Commission.

9. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

10. Other Matters from Supervisors

Ruth Lancaster expressed concern over the number of responders to an incident that occurred at her home recently, as well as concern regarding the cost of REMSI, specifically fees charged by REMSI.

Board requested REMSI Executive Director John Casey attend the May 13 Board meeting and provide the number of REMSI vehicles, the number of staffing, and how determination is made on the number of responders to an incident.

Staff was requested to send Ms. Lancaster and the Board a copy of the REMSI audit via the weekly update.

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Staff was requested to provide the Board with policies addressing enforcement issues regarding county decals ordinances, violations, etc. via the weekly update.

11. Closed Meeting –2.2-3711.A.1.3.5.7

Staff advised there were no items requiring a Closed Meeting session.

12. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried that the Board of Supervisors adjourn to reconvene on Monday, May 13, 2002. This meeting shall be held at 7:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, Pulaski, Virginia.

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

Voting no: none.

Absent: Dr. Fariss.

Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

Peter M. Huber, County Administrator