

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2005

At a reconvened meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, April 4, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, Central Conference Room, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia, the following members were present: Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman, Frank R. Conner, Vice Chairman; Ranny L. Akers; William E. "Eddie" Hale; and Dean K. Pratt. Staff members present included: Peter Huber, County Administrator and Nancy M. Burchett, Assistant County Administrator. School Board staff present included Dr. Donald Stowers, School Superintendent, and Rick Patterson, School Finance Director. Library staff and Board members present included Dot Ogburn, Jill Sandidge and Sandy Smith. Press present included Jack Martin of the Southwest Times.

1. Budget Presentations:

a. School Board:

School Superintendent Dr. Don Stowers presented the Board of Supervisors with a document and a PowerPoint presentation on the estimate of needs for the Pulaski County school system for FY 05-06. The document included the following five sections:

- Budget Goals and Strategic Plan Concepts
- Accomplishments of Pulaski County Public Schools from 2001 – 2004
- Accreditation Status for 2004-05
- Anticipated Revenues for 2005-06
- Unfunded Needs for Fiscal Year 2005-06; and
- Budget Requests

Dr. Stowers then gave a brief review of the above noted areas. He further reported the School Board will have 86 employees with 30 years of VRS service and therefore, eligible to retire this year. He advised of an increase in the employer rate for the Virginia Retirement System that will result in an increase of \$112,000 in the FY 06 budget year.

In addition, he reported the proposed school board budget for FY 06 included a salary increase of 5% for school employees including teachers. This 5% increase in pay including fringe benefits totaled \$1,254,330.

Dr. Stowers also reviewed with the Board of Supervisors information on beginning teacher salaries in the New River Valley in which Pulaski County ranked 8 out of 10 with a beginning rate of pay of \$28,734 for beginning teachers in Pulaski County. Further, Dr. Stowers reported that every 1% in pay increase costs approximately \$275,000.

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The Board discussed with Dr. Stowers the "No Child Left Behind" federal legislation, the number of special education students in the county, cost of textbooks, the number of children in county being home schooled, anticipated federal and state funds for FY 06 and the rising cost of fuel.

Dr. Stowers also provided the Board of Supervisors with information on the type of textbooks bought by the School Board recently with the additional \$500,000 provided by the county to the school system in FY 05.

Chairman Sheffey inquired of anticipated carry over amount by the schools from FY 05 to FY 06. Rick Patterson, School Finance Director, advised he estimated the carry over amount to be in the \$500,000 range.

b. Library Board:

Library Board Chair Jill Sandidge thanked the Board of Supervisors for the opportunity to address the Board on the library's FY 06 proposed budget. She also noted that fellow library board member Sandy Smith was also present as well as Dr. Don Stowers. She requested the Board of Supervisors to consider funding the full budget request amount of the Library Board for FY 06. She then called upon Library Director, Dot Ogburn, to give the library's presentation on behalf of the Library Board.

Dot Ogburn, Library Director, then presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Library's services' to the community and patrons. The presentation included information on the library's strategic plan, collections, technology, staffing, resources, facilities, marketing/public relations and the library system vision. Ms. Ogburn also requested the Board to fully fund the increase of \$23,617.00 in additional funds from the FY 06 library budget as requested by the Pulaski County Library Board.

2. Additional Budget Questions, Directions for Staff or Request for Additional Information:

The Board of Supervisors at this time had no additional questions regarding the proposed FY 06 budget and commended the County Administrator and staff for their work on the FY 06 budget.

It was then moved by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Akers and carried, to approve for public hearing the FY 06 budget for the regular Board meeting of April 25, 2005 with the budget figures that were originally presented to the Board of Supervisors by the County Administrator on March 18, 2005 with the following changes:

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- Registrar – Additional \$880 for Data Processing Services
- Building Department – Additional \$1,000 for books
- State & Local Hospitalization – Additional \$167
- Library – Additional \$3,120
- Contingency – adjust for additional amounts added to Registrar, Building Department, State & Local Hospitalization and Library budgets

The Board further requested staff to advertise the proposed budget twice, once with the budget details and once without the detailed budget information.

Voting yes: Mr. Hale, Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Akers and Mr. Pratt.
Voting no: None.

3. Other Matters:

a. Ratification of DMV Grant Application

On the motion of Mr. Akers, seconded by Mr. Pratt and carried, the Board ratified a grant application from the Sheriff's Office to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles in the amount of \$53,476 with no local match other than in-kind services.

Voting yes: Mr. Hale, Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Akers and Mr. Pratt.
Voting no: None.

b. Scheduling of Joint Meeting with School Board

The Board directed staff to arrange a joint meeting with the School Board on April 27, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at New River Community College, Board Conference Room, subject to concurrence of date by the School Board members.

4. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried, that the Board of Supervisors adjourn to reconvene on Monday, April 25, 2005 for their regular meeting to be held at the County Administration Building, Board Room, Pulaski, Virginia.

Voting yes: Mr. Hale, Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Akers and Mr. Pratt.
Voting no: None.

Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

Peter M. Huber, County Administrator