

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

At a reconvened meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, February 11, 2008 at 6:00 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; Charles Bopp; and Dean K. Pratt. Staff members present included: Peter M. Huber, County Administrator; Thomas J. McCarthy, Jr., County Attorney; Robert Hiss, Assistant County Administrator; Gordon Jones, Finance Director; Shawn Utt, Community Development Director; Jim Sandidge, Information Technology; Ron Nichols, Director of Fleet Maintenance and Operations; Ron Coake, County Engineer; Anthony Akers, Community Activities Director; William Richardson, Emergency Management Coordinator; and Gena Hanks, Clerk.

1. Welcome, Call to Order and Introductions

Following dinner, Chairman Sheffey called the meeting to order and welcomed those present.

2. Draft of Overall Community Vision

Mr. Huber explained the purpose of the meeting was to review goals established by the Board for 2004-07, as well as set new goals for the next four years and to seek direction from county staff as to what the Board would like to see accomplished during those four years.

Mr. Huber presented a draft "Plan for the Development of a Vision for Pulaski County", as well as a draft of the "Pulaski County Vision Statement". He explained that the plan was developed as a result of the Pulaski Encouraging Progress Steering Committee determining the need for an overall community vision. Mr. Huber provided an explanation regarding the overall vision statement and suggested it be shared with the elected officials of the Towns of Pulaski and Dublin, either with the three local governments meeting jointly, or with the Board of Supervisors meeting with each local government on an individual basis. He suggested after review by the three local governments, the vision statement then be taken to the community for discussions.

Mr. Sheffey recommended having a meeting in the different districts. He also advised it had been suggested to him that a student representative be involved in the process.

3. Review of Mission Statement and Previous Goals and Accomplishments

Mr. Huber presented the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Mission Statement, Board of Supervisors Goals – 2004-2007, a mid-term report on the Goals established for 2004-07 and Suggested Four-Year Goals.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Mr. Huber called on each department head to describe their listing of goals for their respective departments. Department heads described their goals as follows. A written listing of goals was also provided to the Board as included in the records of this meeting. Mr. Huber recommended the Constitutional Officers also be requested to provide goals for the next four years.

Technology

Dr. Sandidge explained it was critical to have the School and County's Information Technologies departments housed together.

Mr. Huber recommended consideration of a system which would allow employees to work from home during emergency situations.

Mr. Sheffey questioned the disposal process for computers when they are no longer usable. Dr. Sandidge advised he was concerned about sensitive data on the old computer resulting in them being placed in various county buildings. He advised there needs to be an "iron clad" system in place to guarantee the information is secure once the computers are disposed of.

Mr. McCarthy questioned the security of information when an employee is working from home. Dr. Sandidge advised there was a system in place which provided security.

Tourism

Mr. Hiss explained recent tourism planning sessions held to discuss marketing strategies of tourism. He advised the plan is in a draft phase with the plan being drafted by the Virginia Tourism Association. He advised it is the hope of the tourism planning committee that the localities will adopt the final plan, once it is presented.

Mr. Sheffey suggested the involvement by the two towns in the tourism efforts noting that the Town of Pulaski is a big draw for tourists.

Mr. Bopp indicated that interest in railroading was making a big comeback. He specifically referenced the railroad display owned by Dr. Brockmeyer which is housed in the basement of Dr. Brockmeyer's home. Mr. Bopp suggested the county consider assisting with moving the display to the Maple Shade site. Mr. Huber showed a slide of the entire railroad display. He indicated the town and county could work together to achieve a move. Mr. Conner expressed concern as to who would assume the duties of maintaining the display. Mr. Huber suggested a young person who has an interest in the railroad display could be asked to oversee the display.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Mr. Huber confirmed the move would be a major undertaking as it currently takes approximately 1,600 square feet to house the display.

Mr. Utt suggesting assisting the Town of Pulaski through a T21 grant match. Mr. Huber advised he was not advocating taking over the museum; however, it might be appropriate to ensure that the display be preserved in some manner.

Social Services

Mr. Hiss described efforts to aggressively work with the human services agencies to reduce the number of out-of-home residential placements and their length of stay, as further detailed in the "Suggested Four-Year Goals" included as a part of these minutes.

Mr. Huber advised he and Supervisors Sheffey and Akers had attended a meeting in Richmond which indicated the rate of funding by localities for the Comprehensive Services Act would be changing.

Mr. Hiss indicated a need for more foster care homes and the need for more support and follow-up by Social Services.

Recreation

Mr. Pratt suggested expanding the after school program to include a "mentoring" program. Mr. Conner noted after school programs are currently taking place at four of the county's elementary school.

Anthony Akers advised juvenile crime dropped 50% in the first two years following the opening of the Central Gym eleven years ago.

Mr. Sheffey questioned if the after school program would be expanded to include the other schools. Mr. Akers advised Critzer would be starting an after school program in the fall of 2008.

Anthony Akers advised an "adventure" program would be started in the summer of 2008. Mr. Pratt requested the program be cost effective and tailored to allow for low-income family participation.

Mr. Bopp advised the local Boy Scout Program was an excellent program for boys to be involved as it provides a needed structure.

Ranny Akers advised the cost to send a student to a detention facility far outweighed the cost of sending a student to one of the county's youth camps.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Anthony Akers advised there are currently five gyms being used for the sports being conducted by the county's Recreation Program, with 74 coaches currently volunteering for the winter basketball league. He advised the cost to send one student to the after school program was \$80 a month, as opposed to most daycares which charge as much as \$100.00 per week. He indicated the program keeps students busy and allows for college students to mentor young students. He advised the mentoring program takes special people who have extra time; however, more male participation is needed for one-on-one mentoring with young boys.

Mr. Sheffey advised he was in favor of the concept of a county recreation center.

Anthony Akers shared with the Board an overall concept plan for a recreation center. He advised that Randolph Park continues to see record numbers each year in use of the pool and the daily camp. Further, that a recreation center would enhance the quality of life for all ages. He advised there were a number of different groups and organizations looking to start fundraising towards a proposed recreation center. He provided specifics regarding the recreation facility currently located in Carroll County.

Staff Facilities

Mr. Hiss provided specifics regarding the move of selected offices to the Maple Shade complex.

Mr. Pratt advised he would like to have both the Board of Supervisors employees and School Board staff housed in the County Administration Building (CAB), allowing for more room at the Maple Shade Complex.

Mr. Conner advised there had been too much investment in the County Administration Building to move out and that the current CAB could be renovated to house both the County and School staffs.

Ranny Akers expressed a desire to have the process moved along to finalize the Maple Shade complex purchase.

Mr. Pratt advised the Building Use Committee had recommended that the Social Services and Health Department offices be moved to the Maple Shade complex.

Mr. Bopp indicated it was his desire to see the County staff and School Board staff remain in the CAB.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Joint Services

Mr. Richardson provided an update on the establishment of a joint emergency dispatch system and operations center. He described the current dispatch operations of the county and two towns.

Mr. Conner indicated the only way to eliminate the separate dispatch systems would be by consolidation.

Mr. Sheffey indicated there needed to be one central location for the overall communications system. He suggested staff discussing the matter with Sheriff Davis and the Town of Pulaski.

Mr. Sheffey suggested consideration to housing the joint centers at the Maple Shade complex. Mr. Richardson indicated the Maple Shade complex may not be a suitable location due to the proximity of the railroad.

Mr. Conner suggested the old Coca Cola building in Dublin should be considered as a potential location.

Mr. Nichols described current joint efforts of the garages of the County and the School Board. He suggested the old animal shelter be torn down which would allow approximately 10,000 square feet to house a joint garage complex. By consensus, the Board agreed to review this suggestion.

Mr. Bopp questioned how the current strike at Volvo would affect the county. Mr. Huber advised that most firms considering a location question what union activity has taken place in the past ten years. He indicated union activity makes it more difficult to attract larger business. He suggested the county could focus on bringing smaller businesses to the county.

Community Development

Mr. Utt described goals for community development including the preservation of the old Newbern Jail. Mr. Conner advised the jail was deteriorating fast and he would like to see it preserved. Mr. Sheffey questioned if there were any grants available to assist in the preservation of the old jail.

Economic Development

Mr. Utt described economic development goals which are further described in the "Suggested Four-Year Goals" included in the minutes of this meeting.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Mr. Sheffey advised it was his understanding the Chamber is pursuing the "liquor by the drink" issue by placing it on an upcoming ballot for the remaining districts in the county that do not have liquor by the drink.

Organizational Items

Mr. Huber described goals that include codifying all county ordinances and consideration to a code of ethics. He indicated he would like to add a goal of seeking out "internships" in an effort to obtain quality individuals to assist with county projects while helping area students.

Finances

Mr. Jones described goals which include human resources and personnel tracking, fixed assets tracking on the Bright system and cross training for payroll.

Mr. Hiss indicated the human resources and personnel matters take up a lot of staff time. He referenced the recent compensation study as a good example of the extra work needed to provide adequate human resource and personnel support.

Regional Efforts

Mr. Utt described efforts underway to the development a Management Agreement to ensure the transition to a new Airport Manager is as smooth as possible. He indicated other localities have not been approached at this time and that they needed to remain involved and active in the overall operation of the Airport.

Engineering

Mr. Coake provided specific details regarding goals as they relate to water, sewer and road matters. A description of these goals, as well as an estimate cost, is included in the "Suggested Four-Year Goals" which are included as a part of these minutes.

Ranny Akers suggested the addition of street lighting in the Fairlawn area as a Board goal.

Mr. Sheffey suggested the addition of a connection with Route 11 to the other side of Fairlawn.

Mr. Coake expressed concern over the snow removal efforts by VDOT during the recent snow storm. He indicated the contracting of snow removal by VDOT to outside contractors caused the roads to not be properly cleared in a

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

timely manner.

4. Suggestions and Comments

Mr. Conner suggested providing water and sewer to the Commerce Park as a priority.

Mr. Sheffey indicated it was his desire to see a recreation facility as a top priority for the county.

5. Review of Available Resources

Available resources were discussed throughout the discussions related to the overall goals.

6. Establishment of Board Goals

Mr. Huber advised the Board that county staff would review the goals that had been submitted by staff and prioritize the goals for a future presentation to the Board. He encouraged Board members to advise county staff of any additional goals needing to be added to the list.

7. Other Matters

There were no other matters discussed at this time.

8. Closed Session– 2.2-3711.A.1.3.5.7

A closed meeting is requested pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.1.3.5.7 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, to discuss personnel, legal, land acquisition/disposition, and prospective industry matters.

It was moved by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Akers and carried, that the Board of Supervisors enter Closed Session for discussion of the following:

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:

- Compensation Study

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

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

- Maple Shade Property

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.

- None

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:

- Road Closing Issues

Voting yes: Mr. Akers, Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Bopp,
Mr. Pratt.

Voting no: none.

Return to Regular Session

It was moved by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Conner and carried, that the Board return to regular session.

Voting yes: Mr. Akers, Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Bopp,
Mr. Pratt.

Voting no: none.

Certification of Conformance with Virginia Freedom of Information Act

It was moved by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Bopp 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:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

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: Mr. Akers, Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Bopp,
Mr. Pratt.

Voting no: none.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Akers, seconded by Mr. Bopp and carried, the Board adjourned its meeting to reconvene at its regular meeting scheduled for Monday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, N. W., in the Town of Pulaski.

Voting yes: Mr. Akers, Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Bopp, Mr. Pratt.
Voting no: none.

Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

Peter M. Huber, County Administrator