

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2008

At a special meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, April 7, 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; and Gordon Jones, Finance Director.

### 1. Welcome, Call To Order And Introductions

Chairman Sheffey called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Huber explained recent budget adjustments for the Commissioner of Revenue and Community Development. He also explained that the Sheriff's potential new facility for \$900,000 is not included the budget for this year, but plans to put it back in next year with new revenues. Staff advised the constitutional officers will receive a 2% pay increase in December.

### 2. Recommended Administrative Revisions

Mr. Huber explained the financing of the new Riverlawn Elementary will go through the VPSA with \$1.3 million of technology funds taken out of 20 year financing arrangement and will be financed separately for five years. He noted the health insurance increase is nearly 15% and with the recommended county participation it will cost \$68,000 more than last year.

Mr. Huber introduced the recently released state budget cuts for Pulaski County for an effective decrease of \$436,365. He reported there are no cuts to the school system and the schools will receive an increase due to rebenchmarking. The recommended budget has level funding from the county to the school. Staff needs to determine which state cuts to fund locally, not to accept, or to accept from the state. Mr. Huber recommended replacing the reduced local funds by reducing contingency, adding to personal property tax as part of car tax reimbursement amount calculation, add to the real estate tax level, or take from the reserves fund.

Mr. Huber announced that he had originally cut the REMSI ambulance request from the CIP, but would recommend consideration of adding \$45,000 back for grant matching funds. The recommended budget has level funding for school buses which results in one less bus (four instead of five).

### 3. Presentation(s):

#### a. Sheriff's Department

No comments were made by Sheriff Jim Davis due to previous conversations with Mr. Huber.

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### b. Blue Ridge Independent Living Center

Robert Wright, Independent Living Coordinator, explained that he represents a non-profit agency specializing in assisting those with physical and sensory disabilities by keeping them living in their home. The budget request is to assist with home modifications such as ramps, expanded doors, grab bars, and roll-in showers. The program has no age requirements, but does have income requirements. Funding is received from City of Radford for \$10,000; in-kind from Montgomery County; money from the United Fund of Giles County; and \$5,000 from Blacksburg. Mr. Wright explained they work with Hearts and Hammers on various projects. David Clonch, from Hearts and Hammers with Dublin Baptist, discussed their program in further detail and thanked the Board for the donation of the lumber from the temporary ramp in the front of the County Administration Building.

### 4. Discussion of budget alternatives

#### a. 15% Health Insurance Rate Increase

Mr. Hiss and Mr. Jones explained the 15% increase and presented a plan recommending elimination of the 100% plan and switching from the 80% Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) plan to a Health Savings Account (HAS) plan. The county would keep the 90% plan, with the county funding 50% of the increase and the employees absorbing the rest. The Board asked county staff to meet with Constitutional Officers regarding this issue.

#### b. Employee Pay Increases

Mr. Huber recommends a 1.5% and a \$500 cost of living pay increase which costs \$64,889.

#### c. Compensation Study Implementation

Staff has included funds in the new budget for the whole minimum salary adjustments for those positions that are underpaid according to the internal and external market and half of the maximum adjustments which targets those longer serving employees whose salaries have not kept up with the market.

#### d. Employee Assistance Program Funding

Mr. Huber recommended funding an Employee Assistance Program through Sentara which will cost under \$10,000. The program offers

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counseling assistance for employees in a variety of personal circumstances, as well as professional training opportunities.

e. Commercial and Industrial Building Permit Fees

The comparative data between regional localities was provided and an increase is recommended.

f. Land-Use Fees

Staff recommended an increase in the current \$25 fee, which does not cover advertising costs. The Board inquired as to the general cost to advertise.

g. State Budget Adjustments

This item was discussed previously in the meeting.

h. Capital Improvements Funding

This item was discussed previously in the meeting.

5. Additional Budget Questions, Directions for Staff or Request for Additional Information

Staff advised the groundbreaking for the new regional jail addition is scheduled for Friday, April 11 at 11:30 a.m.

6. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

7. Other Matters

a. Acceptance of Rural Development Grant for New Emergency Services Vehicles

On a motion by Mr. Akers, seconded by Mr. Conner, and carried, the Board approved the following resolution to accept the grant funds and to provide the appropriate matching funds.

**RESOLUTION OF GOVERNING BODY OF  
Pulaski County**

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The governing body of Pulaski County consisting of five members, in a duly called meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008, at which a quorum was present, RESOLVED as follows:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that, in order to facilitate obtaining financial assistance from the United States of America, acting by and through the Rural Housing Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, (the Government) in the development of Police Cars to serve the community, the governing body does hereby adopt and abide by the covenants contained in the agreements, documents, and forms required by the Government to be executed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Pulaski County be authorized to execute on behalf of Pulaski County the above-referenced agreements and to execute such other documents including, but not limited to, debt instruments and security instruments as may be required in obtaining the said financial assistance.

This Resolution, along with a copy of the above-referenced documents, is hereby entered into the permanent minutes of the meetings of this Board.

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

Voting no: none.

b. Resolution In Support of The Proposed Economic Development Access Road at The Shae-Dawn Industrial Park, Dublin, Virginia

Staff reported the property owner desires to move forward with the road and is willing to post the required bond amount and full disclosure of the ownership on the property. Bond counsel still needs to review the form of the bond. The Board requested bond counsel review the agreement prior to further consideration.

c. Ratification of Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the Creation of the New River Valley Network Wireless Authority & Articles of Incorporation

On a motion by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Akers, and carried, the Board approved the following resolution and Articles of Incorporation:

**PULASKI COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION IN THE  
CREATION OF THE NEW RIVER VALLEY NETWORK WIRELESS  
AUTHORITY**

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WHEREAS, this RESOLUTION, made the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008, by the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors, was adopted upon motion duly made and seconded;

WHEREAS, for economic development, the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors has determined that a New River Valley Network Wireless Authority should be created to provide high speed data service and internet access to local government offices, local businesses, emergency service coordinators, educational institutions and the public, and;

WHEREAS, such Authority shall be a regional effort to create the necessary broadband infrastructure and development for the betterment of Giles County and the New River Valley, and;

WHEREAS, the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors expresses a desire to participate in the formation of the New River Valley Network Wireless Authority and future participation in the authority as a whole.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Pulaski County, Virginia, does hereby approve the Articles of Incorporation of the New River Valley Network Wireless Authority and authorize the County Administrator to do all acts necessary and sign on behalf of Pulaski County, all documents necessary to incorporate the New River Valley Network Wireless Authority and to participate in representing the County's interest in the formation of the New River Valley Network Wireless Authority (hereinafter the Authority) to be created pursuant to the Virginia Wireless Authorities Act, (Chapter 54.1, Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia), (the "Act") and serve as the County's first Authority member.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors held on February 25, 2008 after public hearing, advertisement of which occurred on February 10, 2008 and February 17, 2008 in The Southwest Times, a newspaper of general circulation in Pulaski County, Virginia.

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

Voting no: none.

d. Implementation of In-House County Mowing & Additional Budget Adjustment

Mr. Huber announced that the equipment will cost \$14,000 more than the \$50,000 budgeted due to higher bids and purchasing covered

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trailers. Mr. Akers inquired if the bid award was to a local company and Mr. Huber explained that it was.

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Bopp, and carried, the Board approved the appropriation of \$14,000 more for total of \$64,000.

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

Voting no: none.

### 8. Closed Session– 2.2-3711.A.3

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. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Akers, 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 disposition or acquisition of publicly held property regarding:

- Maple Shade Shopping Center Leases

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. Bopp 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. Pratt, 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

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

Voting no: none.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Akers, seconded by Mr. Pratt, and carried, the Board of Supervisors adjourned the special meeting and will attend the Regional Jail groundbreaking on Monday, April 11, 2008 at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be a budget work session to be held on Monday, April 14, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

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

Voting no: none.

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Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

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Peter M. Huber, County Administrator