

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 4, 2010

At a special meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, January 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia, the following members were present: Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman; Charles Bopp, Vice-Chairman; Ranny L. Akers; Frank R. Conner; and Dean Pratt. Staff members present included: Peter M. Huber, County Administrator; Thomas J. McCarthy, Jr., County Attorney; Robert Hiss, Assistant County Administrator; Shawn Utt, Community Development Director; Anthony Akers, Community Activities Director; and Gena T. Hanks, Clerk.

### 1. Welcome & Call to Order

Chairman Sheffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He explained the purpose of the meeting was to hear any additional comments or suggestions from citizens regarding the possible purchase of the TMD building as an indoor wellness facility.

### 2. Invocation

County Attorney Tom McCarthy provided the invocation.

### 3. Citizen Comments Regarding Use of TMD as an Indoor Wellness Center

Anthony Akers provided a brief summary of the slide show presented at the December 21, 2009 Board meeting on the proposed use of the TMD building for use as an indoor wellness center catering to senior citizens and youth.

Mr. Hiss provided detailed statistics related to the Comprehensive Services Act and behavioral issues from a high school survey. A copy of said report is filed with the records of this meeting.

Mr. Sheffey opened the meeting for citizen comments.

Mr. Carol Stone of Sunshine Tours in Pulaski County advised he attends a gym three times a week and is in favor of the proposed facility. He indicated a willingness to make a contribution to the facility in order to make the indoor wellness center a reality.

Ms. Suzanne Wantland, Executive Director of the YMCA (Y), provided an overview on the local Y, including the mission of the Y. She advised that efforts are ongoing to make improvements to the current Y facility, as well as continue to meet the financial needs of the Y. She indicated the pool at the Y was an asset to the entire community and requested the Board consider working with the Y to allow it to serve as a satellite site, should the proposed wellness center become a reality.

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Mr. Mike Miller spoke in favor of the proposed wellness center. He indicated his desire to be involved in the development of a wellness center. He also stated he had visited both the Radford and Wythe recreation centers and that such a facility would be a tremendous asset to Pulaski County and the community. He suggested a wellness center could attract new businesses to the county.

Mr. Kevin Meredith expressed support for a wellness center in the county, noting it would provide a much needed service to Pulaski County residents, as well as attract new residents to the community. He suggested a wellness center would generate business development opportunities, new jobs and tax revenues to the county. He advised he had spoken with many Snowville residents and there is overwhelming excitement and support for the proposed facility.

Ms. Hannah Reed, student, advised she was in favor of such a wellness center. She cited obesity as a problem among children and that a wellness center would provide for a fun and entertaining way for everyone to become physically fit.

Ms. Erica Seagle, student, indicated her desire to have a wellness center in the county. She advised such a facility would provide a fun and safe way for everyone to become physically fit.

Ms. Jeanette Reed, student, advised she was in favor of the proposed wellness center. She indicated she would like to have a place where families can play sports indoors with no threat of canceling games. She also noted such a facility would allow for a safe environment for fellowship amongst students.

Ms. Julia Reed advised it was important to her as a parent to have a safe environment for children to play sports, become physically fit and allow students to get involved in the community.

Mr. Gary Hash, II, commended the Board for beginning the meeting with prayer. He stated the proposed wellness center would allow for important mentoring opportunities for children. He advised he had played sports throughout his childhood and teen years and that good mentoring and physical activity is critical to raising healthy and productive individuals. He suggested a wellness center would be excellent for community.

Ms. Connie Thornton advised the proposed wellness center would benefit the entire community. Ms. Thornton advised that she and her husband had retired back to Pulaski County from South Carolina. She suggested there were many projects that could be implemented allowing for raising funds for the proposed wellness center, including the creation of a plaque to be placed in the center where individuals would provide a donation and have their names

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displayed on the plaque. She advised it would be beneficial to her to have an indoor facility during the winter months.

Ms. Janet Brennend advised she was an advocate for, and on behalf of, elders and disabled adults who receive long term care services through institutional based, or community based, care. She advised she was speaking on behalf of her daughter Leigh Ann Wilson, who is challenged with a physical disability and speech impairment. Ms. Brennend read a statement by Ms. Wilson. Ms. Wilson indicated her desire to see a wellness center in the county indicating the proposed initiative could benefit hundreds of other disabled youth and adults in Pulaski County. Ms. Wilson cited an increase in physical activity, involvement in the community, improved community living skills and enhanced active involvement in the community as the benefits from such a wellness center.

Mr. Huber advised a questionnaire/survey had been sent to county citizens in the county's quarterly newsletter, through an insert with town garbage bills and via the county's web site.

Mr. Huber advised input from Pulaski County citizens would continue to be solicited from the public. He advised of ongoing discussions regarding pricing of the building, calculation of cleaning and renovation costs as well as estimating membership revenue.

Mr. Conner advised he had been contacted by several groups indicating a strong interest in the installation of an indoor swimming pool at the proposed wellness center, allowing for use by the PCHS swim team. Mr. Huber offered for staff to determine the number of individuals who participate in the swim team efforts in the county and provide an update to the Board.

Mr. Sheffey thanked the citizens for attending the Board meeting and providing feedback on the proposed use of the TMD facility as an indoor wellness center.

#### 4. Financial Advising Services

As reported in the Board packet, Board members were requested to review proposals for financial advising services related to Peer Government Monitoring (\$1,500), Financial Policy/Debt Management (\$5,000), and Literary Fund Relief (\$2,000).

On a motion by Mr. Conner, seconded by Mr. Akers and carried, the Board approved contracting with Sprinsted, Inc. for financial advising services related to Peer Government Monitoring (\$1,500), Financial Policy/Debt Management (\$5,000) and Literary Fund Relief (\$2,000).

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

5. Other Matters

There were no other matters discussed by the Board of Supervisors.

6. Closed Session

Mr. Sheffey advised a Closed Session would not be conducted.

7. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Akers, seconded by Mr. Pratt and carried, the Board adjourned its special meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, January 25, 2010 with a Closed Session to begin at 6:00 p.m. and the regular meeting 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.

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Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

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Peter M. Huber, County Administrator