

JOINT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS/SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2014

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At a joint meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and the Pulaski County School Board held on Monday, April 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Information Technology Training Room located on Commerce Street in the Town of Pulaski, the following Board of Supervisors members were present: Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman; Charles Bopp, Vice-Chairman; Andy McCready; Ranny O'Dell; and Dean Pratt.

County staff present included; Peter Huber, County Administrator; Diane Newby, County Finance Director; Jared Linkous, County Engineer; and Gena Hanks, Clerk to the Board of Supervisors.

School Board members present included Mike Barbour, Chairman; Jeff Bain; Joseph Guthrie; and Linda Hill.

School Board staff present included: Thomas Brewster, Superintendent of Schools; Heather Freeman, School Board Clerk; Tim Barnes, Director, Information Technology; Chris Stafford, Finance Director; Greg Brown, Deputy Superintendent; and Ron Nichols, Director of Operations, Transportation and Maintenance.

1. Welcome

Chairman Sheffey and School Board Chairman Barbour welcomed those in attendance. Mr. Sheffey and Mr. Barbour expressed appreciation for the opportunity for the two boards to meet jointly.

2. General Assembly Update

Delegate Nick Rush provided an update on General Assembly action and described accomplishments including extension of tax credits throughout the state, SOL testing reform, a proposed gift cap, stormwater regulations reprieve, a 2% increase for selected state employees, etc. Delegate Rush also indicated his desire to have a state budget in place by July 1, 2014; noting, however, that the Governor had put in place steps allowing for the state to operate past the July 1, 2014 deadline, should a budget not be in place.

Delegate Rush also commended several local young adults for serving as pages/interns during the General Assembly.

County and School Board members thanked Delegate Rush for attending the joint meeting and providing an update on General Assembly action.

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3. Informational Updates on Current Initiatives

A. School Building Program

Dr. Brewster provided an update on the school building program's progress, including determining the scope of work for the project and review of requests for proposals. Dr. Brewster advised it was anticipated that a contract would be in place following the school's 2014 spring break.

Mr. McCreedy inquired if the School Board had received copies of the working papers and calculations prepared by OWPR. Dr. Brewster responded that the School Board staff had copies of all working papers and recognized some concerns related to costs, etc. with plans to address those concerns as appropriate.

B. Timeline for Updating Joint Services Agreements

Dr. Brewster reported the need to update the current Joint Services Agreement to include memorandums of understanding for each specific area of operations. He also described current efforts being taken by staff in conducting this review. Board members discussed the need to develop a firm timeline for completing the agreements and the need for the joint services agreement to address all areas of concerns related to joint services. It was the consensus that the review and draft MOUs could be prepared by July 1, 2014.

C. School Board Move to County Administration Building

Mr. Nichols reported an architectural and engineering (A&E) firm had surveyed the County Administration building and staff was in the process of supplying the A&E with space needs of the current School Board staff.

Board members discussed funding needs related to the move, the number of employees to be moved and a timeframe for moving. By consensus, both boards agreed that the move should be a top priority for both county and school staffs. Mr. Huber responded to the funding question by advising funds for the move are anticipated to be taken from county reserves.

D. Joint Webmaster

Mr. Barnes provided an update on the county's web site to date and an interest by the two boards in sharing a "webmaster" to maintain the site. Mr. Barnes described a detailed spreadsheet which listed the

current users (both small and large) of the county's system and also described in detail a map which showed the various users by storage size.

Board members discussed the costs associated with the county continuing to host websites for outside agencies and the need for the county to receive a fair return for the services provided to other agencies.

By consensus, the two boards agreed that consideration needed to be given to how to fund a new "webmaster" position, as well as the need to address the issue through the joint services agreement.

E. Joint Garage

Mr. Linkous provided an update on the county garage, noting a final completion date of June 1, 2014. Mr. Linkous advised the initial completion date had been scheduled for April 19, 2014; however, weather related events had pushed the date back. Mr. Linkous also advised the grading contract was almost complete.

Board members inquired as to the plans for the old school garage. Mr. Nichols advised there were no immediate plans other than continuing to allow for the facility to be used as a fueling station.

Mr. McCready advised of the need for a garage to house the Pulaski Transit and New River Community Services Board vehicles and suggested the potential for entering into a lease agreement with these agencies for that purpose.

F. Regional Fiber Grant #2

Mr. Barnes distributed and described a map showing the area of the lines. Mr. Barnes also provided details on the grant funds and the method of distribution of those funds, including a grant for the Snowville area in the amount of \$5.1 million.

Mr. Sheffey inquired if the old REMSI building would be included as a part of the lines. Mr. Barnes offered to review the matter and provide an update to Mr. Sheffey.

4. Other Items for Future Discussion

Mr. Bain requested a joint services agreement be in place prior to implementing any future discussions related to potential joint services matters, including those items listed under "Other Initiatives" on the agenda.

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5. Other Initiatives

- A. Personnel Policy Revisions
- B. Joint Services in Human Resources
- C. Transfer of Leave Accruals
- D. Joint Building Maintenance

Mr. Barbour spoke on behalf of the School Board and staff expressing appreciation for the opportunity for the two boards to meet and discuss ongoing issues related to general citizenry of the county including matters related to schools.

Mr. Sheffey described his service as Chair of the Virginia Association of Counties Education Steering Committee and how through that service he learned how fortunate Pulaski County is to have a School Board and Board of Supervisors that work together for the good of the entire county.

Mr. Guthrie commended Robert Hiss in leading the group that had overseen the recent celebration of the Battle of Cloyd's Mountain. Mr. Guthrie shared several compliments from citizens related to the event, including the organization of shuttling of citizens back and forth using Pulaski County school buses.

6. Next Meeting

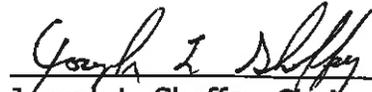
Mr. Sheffey suggested a meeting of the two boards may need to be scheduled prior to the regularly scheduled joint meeting of October 20, 2014. County and school staffs were requested to schedule a joint meeting in July or August, following the next joint oversight committee meeting.

7. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Bopp, seconded by Mr. McCready and carried, the joint Board of Supervisors/School Board meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is a budget work session scheduled for Monday, April 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the IT Training Room facility located on Commerce Street in the Town of Pulaski.

Voting yes: Mr. McCready, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Bopp, Mr. Pratt.  
Voting no: None.

  
Peter M. Huber, County Administrator

  
Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman