

**Buckingham County  
Board of Supervisors  
Monthly Meeting  
May 11, 2015**

At a regular monthly meeting of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, May 11, 2015 in the Peter Francisco Auditorium of the Buckingham County Administration Complex, the following members were present: Danny R. Allen, Chairman; Joe N. Chambers, Jr., Vice-Chairman; I. Monroe Snoddy; John N. Staton; Cassandra Stish; E.A. "Bill" Talbert; and Donald E. Bryan. Also present were Rebecca S. Carter, County Administrator; Karl Carter, Asst. County Administrator; Rebecca S. Cobb, Zoning Administrator; and E.M. Wright, Jr., County Attorney.

**Re: Quorum**

Chairman Allen certified there was a quorum: Seven of Seven members present. The meeting could continue.

**Re: Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order. Vice Chairman Chambers gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all who were in attendance.

**Re: Approval of Agenda**

**Talbert:** Move to approve.

**Bryan:** Second.

**Allen:** We have a motion and a second. Vote to approve the agenda. Seven yes.

**Supervisor Talbert moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the agenda as presented.**

**Re: Approval of Minutes**

**Allen:** Approval of minutes. We have three sets of minutes from April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Stish:** Move to approve, Mr. Chairman.

**Chambers:** Second.

**Allen:** A motion and a second for the April 13<sup>th</sup> minutes. Any discussion or changes? If not let's vote. 7 yes, passed. Minutes for April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Lann:** We usually do them all together.

**Allen:** Ok. All of them have been approved.

**Supervisor Stish moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the April 13<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup> Budget adoption; and April 20<sup>th</sup> Board/Planning Commission Work Session minutes as presented.**

**Re: Approval of Claims**

**Talbert:** You got it.

**Stish:** I'll second.

**Allen:** We have a motion and a second. Let's make a vote on the claims. 7 yes. Claims look good.

**Supervisor Talbert moved, Supervisor Stish seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the claims as presented.**

**Re: Announcements**

**There were none.**

**Re: Public Comments**

**Kenda Hanuman:** Good evening. Kenda Hanuman from District 5, Cassandra Stish's district. Just wanted to thank you personally. I sent a letter after the last meeting resolution and mitigation and letter to FERC. I just want to say that we do appreciate the fact that you are considering that maybe things are not quite as you expected them to be and maybe there will be some more consideration of what your constituents are concerned about regarding the pipeline and the compressor station. Friends of Buckingham are about to have a program tomorrow night, the Resistance Riders, students from UVA are coming through. They are riding mostly the length of the pipeline, about 290 miles and they are staying at Yogaville. There is a program and a potluck tomorrow night and there's a movie the following night. Should I give this to somebody? We are just wondering if you've had any feedback regarding your letter and your resolution. Some good news, some options that there may be developing is the Teslip Power Wall. I don't know if you've heard of that. It's a new battery that actually hangs on a wall and their using it to actually power cities with enough of these lined up. So there are some options to fossil fuel that's moving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and looking for cleaner, sustainable energy to power us and to help protect our environment. I wonder, Mr. Talbert had said that he had an invitation to Appomattox compressor station and I hadn't heard anything about that.

**Talbert:** Yeah, if I can answer that, Mr. Chairman.

**Allen:** Go ahead.

**Talbert:** They were invited, your group invited. I got the message to them. I guess, did you tell them...

**Stish:** No, I haven't had time.

**Talbert:** Well, anyway, there are 11 units up there as long as here to the wall over yonder. But they are not running now for the simple reason all the gas is coming out of Pennsylvania coming south. They are running through Appomattox plant but not with the pumper. They are not pumping it. They think about...I just at lunch with the guy. He's retired and manager down there...they are thinking about changing all of their stuff instead of running it north, they are going to run it south. So they will be cranking back up.

**Hanuman:** Well, we would like to make the visit if that is a possibility.

**Talbert:** I forgot who I have the phone number to that called. They would be glad to have you come and check it.

**Hanuman:** We would like to do that. We are continuing to raise funds for the economic impact study for Buckingham County. Spencer Phillips is working on that. We will have a phone conference with all the four counties that are involved in that this week. I am including all these things in my weekly update that I send out. If anyone wants to be on that email, please let me know. I attended the Dominion shareholder meeting this last week with a proxy and made a comment and spoke to Mr. Ferrell. So it was an interesting visit. Thank you.

**Quinn Robinson:** Good evening, Members of the Board. My name is Quinn Robinson. Still at Andersonville. I also wanted to share my appreciation for the resolution that you passed. It is very important. If only to give us more time to find out more information to make a case to convince the federal regulators of what's happening here. I'm very concerned that if this is such an easy safe operation then why will not Dominion give us the location and all the details of the compressor station. It's important. We should know. If citizens can't be informed, then it's hard for them to make a proper decision. Again, what Mrs. Hanuman said about testing the power wall. It has the potential to transform things dramatically. I would characterize it as being about as important as the invention of the telephone. I'm not exaggerating. It would make it independent for people all over the world, it will make the grid almost obsolete over time. Also one final point, I understand later this evening there's going to be some consideration of a grant on broadband access and I would recommend that we pursue that. Lots of people are interested and there's only, I think, eight grants for the entire Commonwealth, so its going to be hard going. We may not make this one but I hope we can get it done soon and load it up for the schools. Make sure that everybody coming into the school system is ready to walk out the door very tech savvy.

**Allen:** What you said about Dominion and not knowing, right now they don't know. It's two different paths. Until FERC determines which one it's going to be, they don't know.

**Robinson:** That includes the compressor station also?

**Allen:** Yes.

**Robinson:** Ok. Thanks.

**Joe Abbate:** I'm Joe Abbate from Cassandra Stish's district 5. Gentleman, Mrs. Stish, I just want to offer our gratitude from the Yogaville community and folks around that compressor station site for your voicing of concerns for us. Sometimes a representative government seems slow to respond but we knew that if we could work with you and speak with you and Mrs. Stish, we could just extend our concerns and you spoke up for us. I want to thank you for that. As I made clear in my discussions with Mrs. Stish, we are not against gasoline for our cars or natural gas necessarily or pipelines as such but we just are not sure that this particular pipeline needs to be put where it is nor should private property rights be pushed aside as it might be here. So you are voicing our concerns was a good thing and we appreciate that. I'd like to second Quinn's issue about broadband. Because you stepped forward for us we'd like to step forward for you. So not just complaining about something that we don't like but I think that maybe we could have a hand in making this rural community what's called a "Smart Rural Community". I know Mrs. Stish wants to look at this but in my studying of this so I could offer something forward for you. Broadband provides bandwidth for communications to occur so that children that might not have an education of highest quality might be able to get that education and do that kind of research from their homes. They may not have to go far away or have the expense of going far away to get this kind of education and this is really a great value to Buckingham. The other part is farming in itself. Automating, the ability to have instant communication and weather sensors and all sorts of new approaches to farming gives the small farmers and small business some advantages to keep up with the large farming that we have to compete with. So some of these issues aren't mine specifically but they are Buckingham's. You have my commitment to serve you the best way I can. Support Mrs. Stish and support you in growing Buckingham County. Thank you.

**Allen:** Anyone else? If not we will go on.

**RE: VDOT: Road Matters**

**Allen:** Anyone have any road matters? I don't see anyone here from VDOT. Does any of the board have any road matters?

**Staton:** Mr. Chairman.

**Allen:** Yes sir.

**Staton:** Potholes again. They've been repaired, some of them. But they are still getting bigger. From St. Andrews Church to Rt. 602 on 658 just for the record to have it in there, needs to be addressed again. Thank you.

**Allen:** Anyone else?

**Talbert:** Mr. Chairman, I called Kevin. It came through the grapevine that they are going to take 636 from 15 to 24 and chip and seal it on the blacktop. I called him and said I hope to God you don't because it will be 6 months before you can put a line through it and someone will get killed. They are used to the line now and if you can pass anywhere you want to somebody's going to be hitting head on. He was supposed to get back to me and hadn't. I think that would be a disaster. I'd say if you want to put slurge, I don't like slurge but that seals it. But I think they've got the money to go back since it is coming to Appomattox with Lee-Grant's route to Appomattox that they could keep the blacktop on it. I don't know if there's anything this board could say or do but I know I'm opposed to them doing something like that. Have you heard anything Becky?

**Stish:** It's governed by VDOT regulations.

**Carter:** No.

**Talbert:** You hadn't? Sometimes the state slips in these things. I hope the Lord they don't chip and seal it. You ain't doing nothing but throwing away money. Chip and seal it, you might as well do that to one of these roads that's got dust on it.

**Allen:** Alright. That's noted. Anyone else?

There were no other Road Matters.

**Re: Presentation by Supervisor Bryan**

**Bryan:** Mr. Chairman, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month, Mr. Talbert and I went to the Habitat for Humanity, the opening of the Habitat for Humanity house and the Board was presented with this nice plaque. It is actually wood from a 80 year old farm house near Farmville, Virginia. Habitat for Humanity has recycled it and they make these presentations in here. They wanted to thank everyone on the Board for your support. Mr. Chairman, I present this to you.

If you don't mind, I have one more. We thank Becky and Karl every week or every month, every year for what they do for the county, I especially have one presentation I would like to make to Becky. Becky has no children in the school system that I'm aware of in Buckingham County. But out of the generosity of her heart she helped the second grade this year to be able to fund four children to be able to go on a field trip. Our children made a card and signed it.

**Allen:** We still have good people in the county, right?

**Re: Zoning Matters: Industrial Park Proposed Rezoning**

**Cobb:** Tonight I bring you back the industrial park. If you recall that came up previously from the Community Development Advisory Committee and you all put it to the Planning Commission to look at. The Planning Commission now has taken action. What they did was created a new district for the Industrial Park area called Neighborhood Commercial-NC1. The reason they did that was because they didn't want to change it to just business. They wanted to also be able to allow some residential uses as well. So this Neighborhood Commercial does do both business uses as well as residential uses. So they have recommended amending the Zoning Ordinance to include the new district and also changing the Zoning Map for Tax Map Section 138, Lots 15 and 16 which fronts on Wingo Road which is all county owned property of the Industrial Park. Tonight, I'm just asking for you all to set up a public hearing for that...for those two items I guess.

**Chambers:** Is that for June?

**Staton:** I move that we set it for 7:15 at the June meeting.

**Allen:** Well let's just say after 7:00 that way we won't have to wait. So you say after 7:00.

**Staton:** After 7:00.

**Allen:** Motion made, second that we move this to public hearing. Any Questions?

**Stish:** I have a comment, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate what the Planning Commission did to create this sort of a feathering district. I appreciate all the work in creating it. It doesn't look like a lot but I know the conversations that go into making this so, thank you.

**Allen:** Let's vote. Seven yes. So moved over to next month after 7:00.

**Supervisor Staton moved,, Supervisor Stish seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to schedule a public hearing on June 8, 2015 after 7:00 p.m. to hear public comment on rezoning the Industrial Park to NC-1 (Neighborhood Commercial)**

**Re: Consider appointment to the Industrial Development Authority in Chairman Allen's District**

**Allen:** I'd like to, if somebody would make a motion to appoint Nancy Dragovich in my district.

**Chambers:** So moved.

Talbert: Second.

**Allen:** Lets vote. That's seven votes of yes for Nancy Dragovich to be on the Industrial Development Authority.

**Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Talbert seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appoint Nancy Dragovich to the Industrial Development Authority for a term ending April 30, 2019.**

**Re: Consider Appointment of Eddie Chernault to the Southside Virginia Community College Board**

**Talbert:** Edie is well known in the Community College and taught there and taught in the schools in Appomattox and is retired now. When I talked to him he said if the Board accepted him he felt it would be an honor to serve. What he knows up there, he would be an asset to them. I hope we put it to vote and let him serve. I think we should send Mrs. Beaseley a letter of appreciation of the time she served.

**Allen:** Will you take care of that Mrs. Carter? We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Let's vote. Seven yes.

**Supervisor Staton moved, Supervisor Talbert seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appoint Eddie Chernault to the Southside Virginia Community College Board to represent Buckingham County.**

**Re: Consider Letter of Resignation from the Board of Zoning Appeals from Joseph Gemski, III and nomination for this vacancy (Supervisor Talbert)**

**Allen:** Do we have any nominations?

**Talbert:** I don't have anybody at this time.

**Allen:** Will you have something next month?

**Talbert:** Yes.

**Re: Consider nomination of Calvin Bachrach to the Workforce Investment Board**

**Staton:** So moved, Mr. Chairman.

**Bryan:** Second.

**Allen:** A motion and second for Mr. Bachrach to go to the Workforce Investment Board. Let's vote. 7 yes.

**Supervisor Staton moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appoint Calvin Bachrach to the Workforce Investment Board to represent Buckingham County.**

**Re: Consider Re-nomination of Luther Thomas to the Board of Zoning Appeals**

**Allen:** We have a motion and a second. Let's vote. 7 yes.

**Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Stish seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to re-nominate Luther Thomas to the Board of Zoning Appeals.**

**Re: Consider Request of Commission of the Revenue for reimbursement of Taxes for Disabled Veteran Tax Relief in the Amount of \$1,180.46**

Welford Jones submitted an application for real estate tax relief for disabled veterans. He has met all qualifications to receive this tax relief.

I respectfully request that Welford Jones be reimbursed the \$1,180.46 taxes paid for tax years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

**Chambers:** He was considered totally disabled.

**Allen:** I'm glad we can do something for him. We have a motion and a second. Let's vote. 7 yes.

**Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Talbert seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the request from the Commissioner of the Revenue to reimburse \$1,180.46 to Welford and Jo Ann Jones for tax years 2012, 2013, and 2014 due to qualifying for the Real Estate Tax Relief for Disabled Veterans.**

**Re: Consider Request from the Treasurer for Delinquent Tax Notice Funding**

**Staton:** So moved, Mr. Chairman.

**Snoddy:** Second.

**Allen:** A motion and a second. Any Discussion?

**Talbert:** Yes. What is this going to consist of? Putting names in the paper?

**Allen:** I don't think so.

**Carter:** We found that putting the names in the paper...

**Talbert:** Costly. I can tell you that.

**Carter:** Yes, it was over \$5,000. I wasn't effective. Most of the people's names that are in the paper don't get the paper or not around here. So she would like to use that money instead to send out delinquent notices.

**Talbert:** Is she going...do they have a time limit to pay it? Most counties put this stuff up for auction. I don't want to see anybody put out their houses or nothing but I don't know of how many thousands of dollars we have delinquent.

**Allen:** It's \$5400 to get the delinquent notices.

**Carter:** They haven't sent out notices in a while.

**Talbert:** I'm going to support it but after we send out the notices, I think we as a board should do something after that. The law says or the state says we should put it up for auction, let's put it up for auction. That's my whole thing.

**Carter:** These are going to be delinquent notices sent out. At one time, I don't know how many of you were on the board, the county did hire someone privately for collections. That didn't work very well either. It did come back to the board the possibility of putting properties up for auction, the county backed off of that because there is no pick and choose. If it's that little widow or it all goes. I think at this point she is trying to see what she can accomplish.

**Talbert:** Right, we understand that. We'll give her that opportunity.

**Allen:** I'd like to see a record of how well this works. A motion made, seconded and we've talked about it so let's vote. 7 yes.

**Supervisor Staton moved, Supervisor Snoddy seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appropriate \$5400 to the Treasurer's budget for the purpose of delinquent collections.**

**Carter:** If I could just make a comment for the record. The appointments to the Industrial Development Authority and also the Board of Zoning Appeals is a nomination from the Board and the Judge of the Circuit Court has to go through the formality of actually making an appointment. The nomination to the Workforce Investment is also a nomination and the Workforce Investment Board will vote for that person to be on the Board. I think he did attend the meeting last week to see if he was interested. Just to let you know.

**Re: Consider request from Pete Gowin for Water Bill Payment Assistance**

**Chambers:** Mr. Chairman, that bill was \$3,314.38. With the leak formula used, it's down to \$1,679.71. I think we should stick with that. I make that motion.

**Allen:** There's been a motion and a second. Any discussion? I have a question, I probably can't find it again. In one place it says that the usage was 2,867,163 gallons and the other place it says 286,000 gallons which is a whole lot of difference.

**Carter:** That was a typo.

Allen: I was just wondering. That was a lot of water. It would've been running people off the road up there.

Carter: The leak formula give shim \$1,634.67 credit.

Stish: Would he be able to be on a payment plan without additional penalty?

Carter: Yes.

Allen: So that will take care of both, the reduction and the payment plan.

Stish: These were his lines in his building?

Carter: Yes.

Allen: Any more discussion? Let's vote. 7 yes to reduce the bill and offer payment plan.

**Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Talbert seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to use the leak formula in the ordinance to reduce Mr. Gowin's bill and offer him the payment arrangement.**

**Re: Consider Designation of May as Business Appreciation Month**

**Allen:** Is there anything you want to add to that Mrs. Carter?

**Stish:** I'll read the resolution:

**Whereas,** Buckingham businesses play a pivotal role in strengthening our County by embracing job creation, innovative technologies, and employing a diverse workforce to preserve the economic well-being of all our citizens; and

**Whereas,** Buckingham businesses provide jobs to our citizens throughout the County and offer a variety of services and products worldwide; and

**Whereas,** Buckingham's businesses operate in diverse industries, including advanced manufacturing, tourism, agribusiness and information technology; and

**Whereas,** Buckingham County is pleased to recognize the accomplishments of our existing businesses; entrepreneurs; small, minority and woman owned businesses; and the major employers that contribute greatly to the economic recovery of our County; and

**Whereas,** it is fitting to recognize Buckingham businesses for the essential role they play in driving the Buckingham Economy;

**Now, therefore,** The Buckingham County Board of Supervisors, do hereby recognize May 2015 as BUSINESS APPRECIATION MONTH in our County of Buckingham, Virginia.

**Allen:** We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Let's vote. 7 yes.

**Supervisor Snoddy moved, Supervisor Stish seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to adopt the above resolution designating May as Business Appreciation Month.**

**Re: Consider Letter of Invitation for the Virginia Telecommunications Planning Initiative Grant Program**

**Carter:** Chairman Allen, this is an invitation from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development inviting Buckingham to send a letter of interest for the Virginia Telecommunications Planning Initiative Grant. I'm sure you are going to grant authority for us to reach out and offer that letter of interest. This grant would be used mostly for assessment of broadband availability and usage to address the demand and future use, address the relationship to regional planning and telecommunications networks; address community development applications and even for design. Up to \$75,000 in funds will be awarded for communities to develop a comprehensive telecommunications plan. They anticipate awarding up to 8 grant awards. I have provided you with the selection process and it certainly will be highly competitive I'm sure. I'd like to get our IT manager and Karl and all of us to work on this together and Rebecca too and put forth the best application we can.

**Stish:** I make a motion that we pursue this and as you would suspect, I am very much in favor of that. May I say something about it, Mr. Chairman? One thing I'd like for us to do, if we are going to go through the trouble of putting together this letter of interest and pulling together this information that needs to be entered, it's a wonderful starting point for dialogue. Whether or not we get the grant, I would like for it to come back to the board when we find out and for us to consider using some of our economic development money to pursue this. Because there is no reason why we have to wait around for some free money when we've got a little bit in our budget that we've been sitting on. We might want to try to see if that is a good place to invest some and maybe with the business development committee, sort of helping be the round table for that discussion, I just want to say let's go for this grant and in light of it not coming through, let's keep on pursuing it. Thank you.

**Allen:** We have a motion and a second. Any more discussion? Let's take a vote. 7 yes.

**Supervisor Stish moved, Supervisor Staton seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to pursue the Letter of Interest for the Virginia Telecommunications Planning Initiative Grant.**

**Re: County Attorney Matters**

**There were none.**

## **Re: County Administrator's Report**

**Update on Gold Hill School Proposal:** First I'd like to update you when I reached out again to Mr. Hickman regarding a written proposal on the Gold Hill School so we could start working on it, he stated that he was not interested in pursuing it at this time. I wanted to make you aware of that.

**Status of County Decal Elimination:** We've had a few meetings with the Treasurer, Karl and myself and the County Attorney. Chairman Allen is on the Finance Committee and we are just about ready to sit down with you to show you what we've come up with as far as the pros and cons of the county decal. The portion that would be important to know financially is the county going to vote to increase the cost of that decal fee that would be collected when personal property is collected. It will be on the personal property bill. There's a lot of factors in that and next we will be sitting down with the Chairman as the full finance committee and then we'll have to meet with the Utilities Committee regarding then...when we make the proposal we want to also address the Solid Waste. Being able to identify the county residents for solid waste. But we are working on that and at this point we probably would collect more money depending on...the treasurer said she would most likely ask to charge an administrative fee. There's a lot of pros and cons to that and I wanted you to know that we are working on that.

**Talbert:** Mr. Chairman, can I ask Mrs. Carter a question?

**Allen:** Yes

**Talbert:** Can you also enter in to have a public hearing about this? I would make a motion...

**Carter:** We would bring everything to you all to schedule a public hearing.

**Talbert:** I'll hold off on my motion.

**Carter:** When we bring it we want to have all the information so it could all be put out there at one time.

**Talbert:** Just for the committee's information, I guess I see more people in Buckingham than anyone else, and I had my first to say keep it. Others say do away with the decal regardless of what it costs them. I'll pay \$10 more for mine to get rid of it. That will be \$20, that's nothing. The public wants to get rid of it. I can tell you that.

**Think Bigger Up Start:** My other issue is I want to remind you of, I put in here and would like to get out to the public too and we are putting it on our website, is the Think Bigger Up Start program. It's a free boot camp style course for business owners in the county. If you want to attend this, it's through the Virginia Growth Alliance and they are sponsoring a program called Think Bigger. It's an initiative partnering with Longwood Small Business Development Center. If anyone is interested in that we can hook them up with who they need to speak to. I think they've had a few of these and have been very successful.

**Update on EPA Correspondence Regarding the Buckingham Landfill Site:** The landfill, as some of you may know and some may not, Thomasville Furniture was the Principal Responsible Party for the landfill. They have filed bankruptcy so they are no longer a responsible party. We've been very concerned about this. I've provided you with information from Christian Matta with EPA. It was a very encouraging conversation that we had on the telephone. Univar who hopefully is going to be a Principal Responsible Party. They are working on negotiating an order in which they will perform the work and he said all indications are that Univar is willing to sign this order to perform the work. It's encouraging that there is another potentially responsible party contact out there for the landfill. I'll keep you posted on that. I've provided you with the contacts on that.

**Information Regarding the Regional Reassessment Concept:** The CRC has been having some sessions on that. This provided information on there for you all to see. We've had several meetings and it's really come down to the point that I don't think it would be effective, cost effective to do a regional reassessment. Maybe if you just join with one county, you might be able to do something but where they've done it before it hasn't worked. I do have a detailed report on it that I will give anyone a copy of if you'd like. At this point, we haven't seen in our region where it would benefit us. It's more or less we'd be paying someone continuously instead of every 5-6 years. The benefit I see with having someone all the time is keeping your tax records updated at the time.

**Stish:** Consistency.

**Carter:** It wouldn't be such a shell shock.

**Talbert:** Let me add this, if you have in-house, it costs us \$250,000, if you have someone in-house, you are going to have someone that has knowledge of here. Not somebody from Roanoke or somewhere else. They will stick with the state on how. There is no way you can take a thing and run around the house and get an accurate assessment of your house. Land is pretty much going to do it but a house now, I think \$125 a square foot or something like that, you've got 2000 square foot and take that at 50% or 60%. You've got in-house, that's how they can do it. But the way they come here and do it, there is no way you can do that.

**Carter:** Meeting with Virginia Department of Taxation, they are going to require a person or company to be certified through them. It's not like you can just hire someone.

**Staton:** Mr. Chairman, having served on the reassessment board three times, we were told by Virginia Department of Taxation that we could not enter a premise. We could only take measurements from outside. We could ask if there was anybody home, how many bathrooms or whatever or you could figure it out sometimes from the vent pipes outside but modern day codes now, you have one 3" vent pipe to penetrate the roof and you might have five more tied into it from below. So there is no way because we were not allowed to enter the property.

**Talbert:** Mr. Chairman, can I follow up on that? I'm not saying enter that house. What I'm saying, there is a log cabin over there in Andersonville, which is in your district now, it was in

My district, there's no way in God's creation it went up \$100,000 from this time to time before. It's not another one in the State of Virginia you can compare it with. I know how they compare it. Down the road is such and such. The only way to compare what a new one costs...is this one 20%, 30% you don't have to go in the house. Take the measurements outside. That's Mrs. Calhoun over there. There's no way. There's not a log cabin in the State of Virginia to compare it with. How do you come up with a true assessment? That's what I'm saying. It's not fair to people. Anyhow. It's \$250,000. I think we can hire somebody and come out ahead. That's something you've got to look at. I know Roanoke County...we can check with Roanoke County. They do theirs. I know they are much bigger than we are. Anyway.

**Allen:** Mrs. Carter, you've got more?

**Resignation Letter from Kristen Queen, Asst. Recreation Director:** Next, is with regret, I provide you all with a letter of resignation from Kristen Queen, Asst. Recreation Director. She's been offered a job with Slate River Veterinarian that's I believe her true calling. We certainly will miss her. I just wanted to let you all know, which I have but to make it public. You have given me the authorization to go ahead and advertise the position. The deadline is May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Talbert:** I think we should maybe next month get a card. She was an excellent employee. She did 110-120%. All of us would sign it to show our appreciation or give her the authority to sign it for us.

**Carter:** We are going to do something.

**Bryan:** Mrs. Carter, have you advertised for that position?

**Carter:** Yes, and it's on our website. A question was asked for information, not in my report but as far as any response from FERC, we have not heard anything.

**Allen:** All applications are due by May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Stish:** I have a quick comment, Mr. Chairman regarding the Think Bigger Up Start Program, these are really valuable camps. This version of these boot camps is being run in some of the smaller locations. They have a sister which I hope we will begin to see down at Longwood called Lean Start Up. Lean Start Up weekends are just amazing for getting young entrepreneurs with their ideas, all the tools they need to get up and going.

**Carter:** When they partner with Longwood Business, they can help you with financial plan, they can assist you with loans to start the business.

**Stish:** A lot of times, they will help showcase businesses to put you in front of investors or vendors. It's very useful.

**Carter:** I would recommend it for someone even thinking about it. To learn more about how to do.

**Snoddy:** Mrs. Carter, is the Sheriff's department still using the Gold Hill School?

**Carter:** They are using it for training.

**Snoddy:** That's what I wanted to know. If they were using it. Last month they wasn't using it so I was curious.

**Allen:** I see them from time to time when I come through there.

**Carter:** They contact me or Lyn when they are going to be using it.

**Snoddy:** That's good.

**Allen:** Under other Board matters, I have something I want to bring up. I was at the school this morning, they had another bus to break down and they may have it fixed now or may not but I was talking to dr. Snead and he's got two buses in the budget. We used to have 4 in the budget per year and here lately we have not done that. Talking to Mrs. Carter, we had \$250,000 left over from eh library that we didn't use from last time. \$140,000 of that is going to buying the new voting machines.

**Carter:** We are going to have to appropriate about \$140,000 for new voting machines within the next two months.

**Allen:** Yes, to keep the budget the same. So I'd like to ask if everyone would like to, to add at least add one more bus with the extra in the \$250,000.

**Bryan:** I believe we talked about that and we were going to wait until the end of the fiscal year. Once the fiscal year closes out and we are sure of what we are going to do with that money, we talked about that.

**Carter:** Our fiscal year will end at the end of June. We are going to know by then that we haven't spent that money but won't get the final report back until December. We know that so far we haven't used the \$250,000.

**Allen:** Oh, you mean four about it so it will be six. Oh, ok.

**Chambers:** Ain't that right, Mr. Staton?

**Staton:** What?

**Chambers:** At the work session, we talked about trying to get four buses this year. To get back the rotation.

**Staton:** Yes, the school board two and us two.

**Chambers:** I thought the school two and us four.

**Allen:** The school board already has two in the budget.

**Bryan:** We had talked about buying buses with the end of the year money with the \$250,000 however, life throws you a curve ball and one of those curve balls was the voting machines that we are forced to buy. So that's going to deplete what we originally planned and hopefully our money will come in a little bit better than what we anticipated and then maybe, Mr. Chambers, we'll be able to look at it and possibly buy two more. Those would be now. Those will be the now type things where you get on the phone and say I want these next week.

**Allen:** How long does it take to get a bus, Dr. Snead?

**Snead:** Two weeks.

**Allen:** Two weeks. That helps out a lot. So everybody have in their mind to get two more or four more?

**Chambers:** I think it was four total.

**Allen:** Four total, they've got two and we can do two more. Right now we could do one and still be in the budget. Do you want to wait?

**Chambers:** I think we should wait.

**Bryan:** I'd rather wait and see if the State in their infinite wisdom decides to throw another curve ball at us. We don't know exactly how much those voting machines are do we? I know there was a wag...

**Carter:** \$140,000.

**Bryan:** But there's not been a firm that's been appointed yet to sell these so that price could go up or down.

**Carter:** They've met with two vendors.

**K. Carter:** They've met with two vendors and the electoral board is going to meet tomorrow.

**Carter:** We'll be coming back in June with that.

**Stish:** The only thing I'd like to add to this conversation, in light of what we are talking about at the planning work session. We were talking about financial planning and this whole CIP thing, I do think come next year that we make sure the bus rotation is part of the budget. We start to figure that out again. That money is appropriately put back in there to get those buses back in

The rotation and back in the budget like they are supposed to be. That way we don't always have to do this and we don't have to worry about the kids being on buses that are breaking down.

**Chambers:** We talked about that. Getting them back on rotation.

**Allen:** But you are already 8 to 10 buses behind.

**Stish:** That's what I'm saying. We are going to have to have a pick up plan and then figure out.

**Bryan:** You have to be careful about your pick up plan because then down the road you are going to be doing this again. So instead of trying to catch up, just get back in a rotation. If you talk to Ronnie, if we were to go out today and buy 10 buses, Dr. Snead, I think is what we are behind, roughly. Mysteriously we came up with the \$1 million that we would need tomorrow and bought you 10 buses, then 3 or 4 years from now, we are going to have to buy you 10 more buses because that mileage is going to accumulate. What we talked about was getting back on the rotation.

**Stish:** This four will help. Then hopefully it will flatten out again. Alright.

**Allen:** So we are going to wait until the end of the budget to check on at least two more buses.

**Carter:** School will be out in June so we will have time to...

**Chambers:** You don't have but about 4 weeks this year.

**Snead:** The kids will come back beginning of August.

**Stish:** I have one more quick board matter. I see that I'm the Supervisor allocated to go to the School Board meeting this month, that's not possible for me. It's a 1:00 meeting I believe.

**Snead:** We have awards at 1:00 and then we move over to the Window Room at 2:00.

**Stish:** So if there is anybody else on the board that can attend that meeting that would be good.

**Talbert:** What day is it?

**Stish:** Wednesday. I'm in Richmond all day.

**Staton:** I'll go.

**Stish:** Thank you. Supervisor Staton will go in my place.

**Talbert:** Yes, you know, this past week, two fine officers got killed down in Mississippi and all these others are getting killed and we have fine deputies, one is sitting back here tonight and it's bothering me. I want the Sheriff to come talk with Mrs. Carter and see if there is anything we

can do to help assist our law enforcement. Even our prosecuting attorney. All of them are at risk. Including our Animal Control Officers. Anyone that is carrying a gun can be involved in anything like that now. There are thousands of, what do you call them, ISIS or whatever you call them coming in here. We don't know when they are going to attack. If there is anything this board can do to help the Sheriff's Department or Commonwealth Attorney's office, we should do it. I don't have the answers, maybe they don't have answers but get together and not wait to one of our fine officers get shot or wounded for the rest of his life or God help, do like they did in Mississippi. It's bothering me.

**Allen:** Maybe try to make an ordinance.

**Talbert:** I don't know. I don't have the answer. Maybe the Commonwealth and Becky and them with the Sheriff can come up with what this board can do...

**Allen:** Or if there is anything they need.

**Talbert:** Yeah, to help, I'm for it.

**Chambers:** The supervisors are at risk too.

**Talbert:** I know we are. I know we are at high risk. That's why he's sitting back there with that gun on. I hope you understand what I'm talking about. We've got fine officers and we need to protect them the best we can.

**Bryan:** Other Board matters, Mr. Chairman. I have a meeting May 14<sup>th</sup> with the Virginia Growth Alliance. So I will have some minutes to share for the June meeting.

**Allen:** Any other Board matters?

**Re: Executive Session**

**Stish:** I move that we go into Executive Closed Session under:

Discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments. §2.2-3711-A.1

Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. §2.2-3711-A.3

Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. §2.2-3711-A.5

**Supervisor Stish moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to enter into executive session under the above stated codes.**

**Re: Return to regular session and Certification**

**Supervisor Stish moved, Supervisor Talbert seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to certify that to the best of each Board members knowledge only public business matters as were identified by the motion by which the closed executive meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the executive closed session.**

**Re: Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Allen declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

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Rebecca S. Carter  
County Administrator

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Danny R. Allen  
Chairman