

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Meeting of the Bland County Board of Supervisors held at the Bland County School Board Office, Bastian, Virginia on the twenty-eighth day of October 2003, the following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent.

PRESENT: Wade Blankenship, Robert O. Munsey, Danny Kinder

ABSENT: Frank W. Chandler

ALSO PRESENT: Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator; Carol Hall, Secretary; James E. Cornwell, County Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Phipps and Marty Holloway – VDOT; several citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Wade Blankenship called the regular meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Supervisor Danny Kinder offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE

Robert Munsey led the pledge of alliance to the flag.

BOARD APPROVED AGENDA

*****MOTION to approve the October 28, 2003 agenda as presented was made by Robert Munsey seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

*****MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting. Items within the Consent Agenda included: 1) minutes of the regular meeting of September 23, 2003; 2) bills for the month of October 2003 in the amount of \$718,760.81; 3) payroll for September 30, 2003 in the amount of \$60,986.16 and 4) reports of the Treasurer, Sheriff, Commissioner of Revenue, Recycling Program, Building Official, Animal Control, Public Works and E-911 Coordinator.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Resident Engineer Frank Phipps appeared before the Board with an update on projects throughout the County to include: 1) Rt. 52 bridge completed; 2) Rt. 608 surface treatment to be completed when weather permits; 3) Rt. 615 ROW staked; 4) Rt. 614 traffic study has been completed and was sent to Richmond; and 5) reminder that the Secondary Road Plan Public Hearing would be advertised for November 25, 2003. Mr. Phipps also noted that the legal documents and the resolution are needed regarding the Ridgeway Subdivision project.

Rt. 615 ROW Bastian

Frank Phipps advised the Board that the ROW staking of Rt. 615 consisted of measuring 25 feet from the center of both sides of the road, with no normal survey being done. The staking began at the intersection of Rt. 52/615 to the end of Rt. 615. Mr. Phipps added that the portion of Rt. 615 from Rt. 52 to Rt. 646 there would be 30 feet of ROW remaining which could be given back to the landowners.

SOCIAL SERVICES

****MOTION to approve the Social Services, August 2003 report in the amount of \$44,659.48 with the local share of \$6,065.09 was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from meeting.

SCHOOLS

*****MOTION to approve the school's, November 2003 requisition in the amount of \$800,000.00 was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

SMYTH-BLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY

Library representative Harry Shupe informed the Board of the 13% increase in library usage over the same period of last year. Mr. Shupe noted that PasCor has donated a flag pole for the library. The County Administrator was directed to send a letter of appreciation on behalf of the County to PasCor.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney James Cornwell informed the Board of the continuance of the Thompson case with no hearing date scheduled. This continuance was at the request of the property owner.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Mechanicsburg resident Elmer Chewning appeared before the Board with the request that the Board, County Administrator and the County Attorney take to the Attorney General the request to redistrict Bland County to make fair for the Hollybrook and the Mechanicsburg precincts because the inmates at BCC being counted within the census and thus Mr. Chewning felt this to be unfair to the voters in the district. Mr. Chewning also requested that the Board and the county work more closely together on the recreational needs of the county. The County Attorney was directed to check into the redistricting request and report findings to the Board.

APPOINTMENTS

Road Viewers Committee -- Tabled until the November 2003 meeting.

Bland Industrial Development Authority

*****MOTION to reappoint Harold Andrews to the Industrial Development Authority for a four year term to expire September 30, 2007 was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

Bland County Planning Commission

*****MOTION to reappoint Allan Newberry to the Planning Commission for a four year term to expire September 30, 2007 was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Robert Munsey with Danny Kinder voting yes and Frank Chandler absent.

Bland County Planning Commission

The Board requested a list of the current members and the districts that they represent in order to equalize the membership to each district.

PUBLIC SPEAKER

Extension Agent Elizabeth Johnson presented the annual appreciation 4-H apple butter gifts to the Board members.

E911 REPORT

E911 Coordinator Katie Gamble updated the Board in regard to the MSAG address returns to be at 75.1% with data conversion to be after January 1, 2004. Mrs. Gamble advised that the penciled changes to the lease purchase agreement/resolution with Government Capital had been completed by bond counsel but was not in proper format and therefore she requested it be tabled until the next meeting.

BLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD REQUEST WAIVER OF ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEE

*****MOTION to approve the request of the Bland County School Board to waive the \$30.30 permit fee for the lights to be installed at the softball field in Bastian was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

BLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD REQUEST WAIVER OF PLUMBING PERMIT FEE

*****MOTION to approve the request of the Bland County School Board to waive the \$20.35 for a plumbing permit fee for a building at Bland School was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from meeting.

CLETIS JUSTUS REQUEST WAIVER OF BUILDING PERMIT DENIED

*****MOTION to deny the request of Cletis Justus for a waiver of a building permit fee to set a double-wide was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

TOBACCO ALLOTMENT BUY-OUT PROGRAM RESOLUTION

*****MOTION to table the Tobacco Allotment Buy-Out Program Resolution until more information is received was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

VSBA MORAL OBLIGATION AGREEMENT

*****MOTION to approve the VSBA Moral Obligation Agreement for the loan guarantee for the Wythe Technology project was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2003 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE APPROVED

*****MOTION that the County be consistent to the State regarding closing of county offices for the November and December 2003 holiday season was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

County Administrator Jonathan Sweet informed the Board of the Economic Development announcement through Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority to Wythe Technologies creating 102 jobs and the notice that no new projects were funded under the TEA21 Grant.

HCC & MECHANICSBURG WALKING TRAILS APPROVED

*****MOTION to award the paving of the walking trails for the Hollybrook and the Mechanicsburg parks to Compton Paving (the lowest bid) was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE

Representative Randy Newberry appeared before the Board with the request that the Ceres walking trail be recommitted and if needed dip into the monies within the recreational CD in order that the trail be completed within the 03-04 fiscal year.

*****MOTION to pave the Ceres walking trail in spring 2004 and commit that the monies used from the Recreational CD be put back with the 04-05 recreational budget monies was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

The County Administrator advised that since the recreational department budget had been depleted an additional appropriation to the line item would need to be done by the Board to proceed with the Ceres walking trail.

Mr. Kinder withdrew his motion, seconded by Robert Munsey with Mr. Blankenship voting yes, Mr. Chandler absent.

The County Administrator was directed to look into a TEA21 grant for the Rocky Gap bridge project including the lead testing costs.

CLOSED SESSION

“Move to go into a closed session to discuss a personnel and an undisclosed business matter was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

“Move to return to Regular Session and waive the reading of the certification of a Closed Session but certify that only items announced by the Board were discussed in Closed Session was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONVEY PROPERTY TO IDA

Mr. Blankenship opened the public hearing announcing that the hearing was being held to convey the 5.39 acre parcel of real estate owned by the County of Bland and located within the I-77 Industrial Park to the Bland County Industrial Development Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jonathan Sweet representing the Industrial Development Authority encouraged the Board to convey the property to the IDA noting that in doing so it would speed up the process in working with the potential clean business prospect for the park.

Rocky Gap Gene Leedy requested that the Board look favorably on the request of the IDA noting that the County is in need of a good clean business to assist in our tax base.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

The public hearing was closed upon the motion made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

BOARD CONVEYS PROPERTY TO IDA

*****MOTION to convey the 5.39 acre parcel of real estate owned by the County of Bland located along State Route 52 in Hicksville as shown on a plat entitled I-11 Industrial Park to the Bland County Industrial Development Authority for the purpose of industrial and economic gain providing a site for the prospected business – if this prospect is terminated, lost or dissolved the said 5.39 acre tract reverts back to the previous owner being the Bland County Board of Supervisors within 90 days of the original notice of the termination, lost or dissolved was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the voting.

SKYWAY OUTDOOR CONCERN OF AWARD OF E911 ROAD SIGNS CONTRACT

Paula Goforth, co-owner of Skyway Outdoor Signs of Bastian VA expressed concern that the amount paid to Dogwood Signs for the fabrication and installation of the county’s E911 signs was approximately \$10,000 higher than the bid submitted by Skyway. Mrs. Goforth noted that originally her bid was \$1000 higher than Dogwood’s but negotiations not to go with concrete installation reduced Dogwoods bid to \$55,500 when indeed Skyway’s bid was \$45,533. Mrs.

Goforth added that she was disappointed that a local businesses located within the county and paying local tax dollars was not given more consideration.. Mrs. Goforth requested an explanation as to why the additional monies was spent. The board advised they would look into her concern.

TRAVEL PLAZA RESOLUTION ADOPTED

*****MOVE to approve the Agreement between the County of Bland and the Virginia Travel Plaza as previously discussed and authorize the County Administrator to sign was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

ABB/COUNTY GOF AGREEMENT APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the GOF (Government Opportunity Fund) Agreement and the TROF Agreement (Tobacco Regional Opportunity Fund) between the County of Bland and ABB and authorize the County Administrator to sign the agreement on behalf of the county was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PLAQUE WORDING APPROVED

*****MOTION to authorize the County Administrator to look into reasonable costs of a plaque for the new addition to the courthouse with the wording to be "Bland County Courthouse Additions and Renovations dedicated to the citizens of Bland County - January 2004" was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Danny Kinder with Wade Blankenship voting yes with Frank Chandler absent from the meeting.

SICK LEAVE SHARE PROGRAM REQUEST DENIED

*****MOTION to deny the request of Pamela Coffman for sick leave hours under the Sick Leave Share Program was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship voting yes and Frank Chandler voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT This meeting was adjourned until 4:00 a.m. on November 25, 2003 at the Bland County Schoolboard Office, Bastian, VA.

Frank Chandler, Chairman

Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator