

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Meeting of the Bland County Board of Supervisors held at the Bland County Courthouse located in Bland, Virginia, on the twenty- eighth day of October 2008, 5:00 p.m., the following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent.

PRESENT: Jason R. Ramsey, Henry Blessing, John C. Thompson, Karen Hodock

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator, Carol Hall, Deputy Administrator,
Paul Cassell, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mr. Ramsey called the October 2008 regular meeting to order.

INVOCATION

PLEDGE TO FLAG

The invocation was offered and pledge to the flag was led by Supervisor Mr. Blessing.

OCT. 28, 2008 MEETING AGENDA APPROVED WITH CHANGES

*****MOTION to approve the October 28, 2008 meeting agenda as amended was made by Henry Blessing and seconded by Karen Hodock.

Vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED

*****MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the bills for the month of October 2008, in the amount of \$255,843.57, payrolls of September 30, 2008, October 2, 2008 and October 16, 2008 totaling \$169,346.03, reports from the Treasurer, Building Official, Public Works Director, Meals & Lodging and Recycling were made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

Vote on this motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

VDOT

Marty Halloway, VDOT Residency Administrator, appeared with an update of ongoing projects throughout the county and advised the Villa Heights speed limit signs are posted at 25 mph and the Watch for Children signs are up. The Rock Quarry Rd. is being reviewed for a 3-way stop sign, the settling of the Rt. 52 bridge in Bastian is being reviewed and the request for a school bus stop sign upon Walkers Creek Rd.

SOCIAL SERVICES AUGUST 2008 REPORT APPROVED

*****MOTION to accept the August 2008, Social Services report in the amount of \$66,646.82, with the local allotment of \$8,636.34, was made by Henry Blessing and seconded by John Thompson.

Vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

SCHOOLS NOVEMBER 2008 REQUISITION APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve and appropriate the Bland County School Boards' November 2008 requisition in the amount of \$750,000.00, and approve an additional appropriation for October 2008 in the amount of \$150,000.00, to approve the meeting minutes of September 22, 2008 and to approve all check registers submitted to the Board of Supervisors for the month of September 2008 was made by John Thompson with second made by Henry Blessing.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

John Goins, Treasurer appeared with an update of office activities and advised of the 2007-2008 fiscal year closing. Mr. Goins informed the board of the new employment of Vicki Kensinger, as deputy treasurer, effective October 1, 2008.

ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT

Remona Jackson, Animal Control/Litter Control Officer advised December 13, 2008 has been set aside for the annual animal clinic.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS

Willie Howlett, Coordinator presented the Emergency Services monthly report of work activities to include the assigning of 911 addresses.

SMYTH-BLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT

Harry Shupe, representative reported the latest library statistics and announced that the library has received four computers from the Gates Foundation.

BLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Denise Smith invited the Board to the Harvest Festival Celebration – an American Indian, pot luck dinner planned at the Wolf Creek Indian Village and Museum on November 22, 2008, 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

ROUND THE MTN REPORT

Steve Hermansen, representative presented the new Blue Ridge Association Travel Guide and advised of the membership numbers to RTM.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Paul Cassell, Attorney reported on several county projects being worked on during the month of September 2008.

BLAND CO VETERANS MEMORIAL GROUP REQUEST WAIVER E&S PERMIT FEE

*****MOTION to waive the \$50.00 Erosion and Sedimentation Control permit fee as requested by the Bland County Veterans Memorial Group was made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

2008 HALLOWEEN CURFEW

*****MOTION to set the County's Halloween curfew to be 9:00 p.m. on October 31, 2008 was made by Henry Blessing and seconded by John Thompson.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

BLAND MINISTRY CENTER REQUEST WAIVER OF E&S PERMIT FEE

*****MOTION to waive the Erosion and Sedimentation Control, \$50.00 permit fee as requested by the Bland Ministry Center and Dental Clinic was made by John Thompson and seconded by Henry Blessing.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

2008-2009 BOS BUDGET TRANSFER APPROVED

*****MOVE to transfer \$3,000.00 from the Board of Supervisors' department to the Community Development department for the Community Clean-up Project on Bears Trail was made by John Thompson and seconded by Henry Blessing.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

2008-2009 SHERIFF'S DEPT. BUDGET TRANSFER APPROVED

To tell the truth I am very uncomfortable voting on anything which only two supervisors can take part in, but I will make the *****MOTION to accept the creation of the Executive Director of Administration & Public Relations' position in the Sheriff's Department, to eliminate the part-time receptionist position in the Sheriff's department and to approve a budget transfer of \$5,077.63 from the Sheriffs' part-time line to the Sheriff's department full-time line to accommodate an increase in salary for said position and from hereafter when any department head want to make a change they should get the board of supervisors' approval first because this is unusual was made by Henry Blessing.

To be honest I feel uncomfortable with this, I think this is going to be allot of work for Mrs. Ramsey. I have spoken with Mrs. Ramsey and she has assured me that the sheriff's department will not be asking to reinstate the part-time receptionist's position. Mrs. Hodock seconded the motion.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, abstain; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, abstain. The motion passed.

SIGNATURE TRAIL HEAD LOCATION PROJECT

*****MOTION to accept funding of the Signature Trail Head Location Project out of the Board of Supervisor's department with the understanding it will be located behind the Bland Square and costs associated with the clean up will be shared among the owner and the County, with the county costs coming from Mr. Thompson's community development funds, was made by John Thompson and seconded by Henry Blessing.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

2008-2009 BUDGET TRANSFER FOR YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM DEPT

*****MOTION to approve the budget transfer of \$400.00 from the Board of Supervisors' department to the Youth Enrichment Program department for contributions to the Bland FFA for \$200.00 and the Rocky Gap FFA for \$200.00 was made by Henry Blessing and seconded by Karen Hodock.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

2008-2009 BUDGET TRANSFER FROM BOS DEPT FOR BLAND VFW APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the budget transfer of \$600.00 from the Board of Supervisors' department to Community Development department for contributions to the Bland VFW was made by John Thompson and seconded by Henry Blessing.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

2008-2009 BUDGET TRANSFER FROM BOS DEPT TO HOLLYBROOK/MECHANICSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the budget transfer of \$1,000.00 from the Board of Supervisor' department to the Fire Department(s) department for contributions to the Hollybrook/Mechanicsburg Volunteer Fire Department was made by Henry Blessing and seconded by John Thompson.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

BLAND COUNTY PRESCRIPTION DRUG CARD PROGRAM UPDATE

An update was provided on the usage and savings to county residents utilizing the County's Prescription Drug Card.

GRANT FOR SMALL BUSINESS'S WEBSITE DESIGN

The County Administrator advised of the grant dollars available for website development for expansion of small businesses. Matching grant dollars up to \$2,000.00

5-YEAR GRANT PROCUREMENT REPORT

The County Administrator announced to the board and to the public of the 5- year grant procurement report for Bland County beginning with the fiscal year 03-04 to date in the amount of \$6,275,191.00.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT \$145,000.00 GRANT AWARD

Christina Gilly of the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission presented a Housing and Community Development grant in the amount of \$145,000. \$50,000.00 toward the Commerce Park and \$95,000 granted toward the BP waterline.

OLD ROCKY GAP WATER SYSTEM ACCOUNT CLOSED

Supervisor Mr. Blessing announced that the old Rocky Gap Water System funds remaining after the shut down of the water system would be divided ---giving \$4,200.00 to the Veterans Memorial and \$4,200.00 to the Rocky Gap Fire Department.

CLOSED SESSION *****"Move to go into a closed session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 2.2-3711-A, subparagraph 1 of the Code of Virginia was made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

"Move to return to Regular Session, adopt the certification and waive the reading of the certification of a Closed Session but certify that only items announced by the Board were discussed was made by John Thompson, seconded by Henry Blessing.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, absent at time of vote; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

VERIZON C.U.P. SITE # 4618 PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

Chairman Mr. Ramsey opened the public hearing to receive comment on the application of Verizon Wireless to install a self-supporting telecommunication tower at 4618 Wilderness Road, Tax Map No. 38-A-49.

Stephen Waller, representative of Verizon Wireless spoke on the proposed cell tower site. This site would provide service to the Wilderness Road, Kimberling Road, State Rt. 608, State Rt. 631 and State Rt. 641.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Chairman Mr. Ramsey closed the public hearing.

VERIZON WIRELESS C.U.P. SITE #4618 APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

*****MOTION to approve the C.U.P. application made by Verizon Wireless to install a 199 ft. self-supporting tower upon Tax Map #38-A-49, located on the north side of State Rt. 606, Wilderness Rd. opposite from the intersection with State Rt. 612, Kimberling Rd. upon property owned by Willard D. and Alonia Miller, with the conditions as outlined within Section 62-134 of the Zoning Ordinance, and the 20 conditions imposed as outlined within Chapter 62, Section 62-134, and allow the tower to be expanded from 199' to 250' if needed was made by John Thompson and seconded by Henry Blessing.

Vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

VERIZON C.U.P. SITE #9423 PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

Chairman Mr. Ramsey opened the public hearing to receive comment on the application of Verizon Wireless to install a self-supporting telecommunication tower upon Tax Map #69-A-23, 9423, E. Bluegrass Trail.

Stephen Waller, representative of Verizon Wireless spoke on the proposed cell tower site.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Supervisor Mr. Blessing closed the public hearing.

VERIZON WIRELESS C.U.P. SITE # 9423 APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

*****MOTION to approve the C.U.P. application made by Verizon Wireless to install a 199 ft. self-supporting tower upon Tax Map #69-A-23, 9423 E. Bluegrass Trail, near the intersection with State Rt. 608, upon property owned by Samuel P. Bernard, Jr. This tower would provide service to the residents in the Mechanicsburg area, Blue Grass Trail, State Rt. 608 and State Rt. 738. The roads to the tower will be built and maintained by Verizon Wireless, with the conditions imposed as outlined within Section 62-134 of the Zoning Ordinance, and the 20 conditions imposed as outlined within Chapter 62, Section 62-134 and allow the tower to be expanded from 199' to 250' if needed, was made by John Thompson and seconded by Henry Blessing.

Vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed

ADJOURNMENT This meeting was adjourned until 5:00 p.m. November 25, 2008.

Jason R. Ramsey, Chairman

Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator