

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-fourth day of February, 2009 at 5:00 p.m., the following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent.

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

ABSENT: None

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

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mr. Thompson called the February 2009 regular meeting to order.

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairman Mr. Thompson requested a moment of silence in memory of Justin Dunn.

#### INVOCATION

#### PLEDGE TO FLAG

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

#### FEBRUARY 24, 2009 MEETING AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED

#### CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the minutes of January 24, 2009, bills for the month of February 2009, in the amount of \$414,397.30, payrolls of February 2, 2009 and February 17, 2009 totaling \$172,072.46, reports from the Sheriff, Treasurer, Animal/Litter Control, Building Official, E-911, Public Works Director, Meals & Lodging and Recycling were made by Karen Hodock and seconded by Henry Blessing.

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

#### VDOT REPORTS

Marty Halloway, Residency Administrator advised of the public hearing scheduled March 25, 2009 introducing the proposed cuts including consolidation and changes in the level of service that VDOT currently provides to Bland County.

Mr. Ramsey inquired as to the requirements needed to bring State Rt. 738, Dry Hollow Lane into the state system.

Mr. Halloway advised that in order to come into the state system the road would need to be improved to state standards without funding from VDOT. He added he would look at and provide an estimate for the project.

Mr. Blessing requested that heavy trucks be restricted upon Rt. 621. Mr. Halloway is to review.

The County Administrator inquired as to the purpose of the traffic counters upon Rt. 52. Mr. Halloway responded as it to be a required annual update.

#### SOCIAL SERVICES DECEMBER 2008 REPORT APPROVED

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to accept the December 2008, Social Services report in the amount of \$71,712.28, with the local allotment of \$21,423.03, was made by Karen Hodock 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 unanimously.

#### SCHOOLS MARCH 2009 REQUISITION APPROVED

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve and appropriate the Bland County School Boards' March requisition in the amount of \$800,000.00, to approve the meeting minutes of Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and Jan. 26, 2009 and to approve all check registers submitted to the Board of Supervisors for

the month of December 2008 and January 2009 was made by Henry Blessing with second made 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 unanimously.

#### COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

Cindy Wright, Commissioner of Revenue reported on office work activities and advised Age Credit applications are due April 30, 2009.

#### SHERIFF'S REPORT

Jerry Thompson, Sheriff appeared before the board with the request to replace the current gasoline tank, advised of the recent activities of the K-9 and the possession of a 1995 Oldsmobile.

#### E-9-1-1 COORDINATOR REPORTS

Willie Howlett, Coordinator reported \$600.00 worth of county 911 road signs vandalized the past current months. Mr. Howlett advised that all county administration staff have received the required NIMS training, IS100, IS200 and IS700. The EOC grant process is complete and has been sent to Richmond.

#### SMYTH-BLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT

Lois Shupe, representative, reported the January 2009 library statistics.

#### ROUND THE MOUNTIAN COMMITTEE REPORT

Steve Hermansen, designee appeared with an activity update.

#### BUILDING/ZONING OFFICIAL REPORTS

Joel Cagle, official reported 33 inspections for the month of January 2009. Mr. Cagle advised that four of the six cell towers have been installed.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Elmer Chewning, Mechanicsburg resident expressed his desire that the county redistrict and his dissatisfaction that the inmates at the Correctional Center being included in the Mechanicsburg census. Mr. Chewning also requested that the board consider a Supervisor-At-Large.

Don Anderson of East River Amateur Radio Club expressed his concern of a tax ticket received on the amateur radio equipment located on East River Mtn. This radio equipment is used by a radio club which backs up emergency rescue squads. Mr. Anderson said there is no federal or state code which regulates the taxing of the equipment and requested to the county attorney the state statute that would require the taxing or direct the commissioner of revenue to void the tax ticket for the organization.

Chair Mr. Thompson requested that the Emergency Coordinator, the county attorney and the commissioner of revenue investigate the specific code sections and report to the board at the next meeting.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT EDUCATION POOL (LGEP) KING APPLICATION APPROVED

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the Government Education Pool Application of Francis "Cindy" King in the amount of \$500.00 contingent upon the satisfactory completion of the course and receipt of payment 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 4-0.

PERSONNEL POLICY CHANGES PASSES

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the classification changes and additions including the eligibility of benefits as per class within the County's Personnel Policy was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by Karen Hodock.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, no; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed 3-1.

2009-2010 BUDGET CALENDAR ADOPTED

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to adopt the 2009-2010 Budget calendar as presented was made by Karen Hodock 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 4-0.

WAIVER OF BUILDING PERMIT FEE

Eversole building permit fee waiver request.

No action taken.

Hollybrook/Mechanicsburg Volunteer Fire Department waiver of building permit

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to waive the building permit fee of \$15.26 as requested by the Hollybrook/Mechanicsburg Volunteer Fire Department was made by Jason Ramsey 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 4-0.

SKYWAY OUTDOOR, INC. WAIVER OF RIGHT TO PURCHASE PASSES

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve Skyway Outdoor, Inc. request as to the Waiver of Right to Purchase due to refinancing 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 4-0.

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.

CERES RURITAN DONATION FROM BOS FOR ADA IMPROVEMENTS

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to provide \$1,000.00 to the Ceres Ruritans to bring the Ceres High School rest rooms up to ADA standards, transferring from the BOS's budget to the Community Development Fund was made by Henry Blessing and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed 4-0.

APPOINTMENT

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to appoint Wade Hall to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Randy Moler to the Parks and Recreation Committee was made by Henry Blessing and second made 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 4-0.

STIMULUS FUNDS FOR RT. 612 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Chairman Thompson requested that Ms. Repass, Project Manager look into if stimulus funds could possibly be used for road improvements.

CLOSED SESSION \*\*\*\*\*“Move to go into a closed session to discuss a legal matter pursuant to 2.2-3711-A, subparagraph 7 of the Code of Virginia was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by Henry Blessing.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed 4-0.

“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 Jason Ramsey, 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 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONVEY PROPERTY TO EDA OPENED

Mr. Thompson opened the public hearing to receive public input to convey property known as the Wolf Creek Indian Village to the Bland County Economic Development Authority (EDA).

County Administrator Mr. Sweet announced that since the Historical Society had relinquish the property it was now the responsibility of the County. The county's obligation was to take care of the debt service applied to the property and all the liens. The county attorney provided a title search with findings of several liens against the property. The county has resolved all the liens. It was the objective of the board to convey this property to the EDA who would then operate the facility and oversee the employees and provide the operating dollars to do such. The County's personnel policy would be used, the county's finance system, and the payroll system with the EDA reimbursing the funds as needed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Mr. Thompson closed the public hearing.

LAND CONVEYED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to convey 24.5 acres of property and all improvements thereon, known as the Wolf Creek Indian Village (Tax Parcel # 49-A-1), to the Bland County Economic Development Authority (EDA) was made by Henry Blessing and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed 4-0.

ADJOURNED This meeting was adjourned until 5:00 p.m. March 24, 2009.

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John C. Thompson, Chairman

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Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator