

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-sixth day of September 2006, 5:00 p.m., the following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent.

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator, Carol Hall, Deputy Administrator,
Frank Slavin, County Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT: Harold Sargent – VDOT; several citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Henry Blessing called the September 2006 regular meeting to order.

INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Vice-Chairman Jason Ramsey.

PLEDGE TO FLAG

Chairman Mr. Blessing led the pledge alliance to the flag.

SEPTMEBER 26, 2006 MEETING AGENDA APPROVED

*****IT WAS THE CONSENSUS of the Board to approve the September 26, 2006 meeting agenda with the addition of the Little Creek Fire Department grant application request.

CONSENT AGENDA

*****MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of additional bills for the month of August 2006 in the amount of \$19,714.36, the September 2006 bills in the amount of \$291,556.70; the August 30, 2006 and September 15, 2006 payrolls totaling \$144,915.47; minutes of the Regular meeting of August 23, 2006 and Continued Meeting of August 28, 2006, reports from the Treasurer, Building Official, E-911 Program Manager, Public Works Director, Meals & Lodging and Recycling was made by Jason Ramsey, 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.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Harold Sargent, VDOT representative, appeared before the board with an update to include Rt. 644 project, Rt. 670 paving, and the Rt. 608 project, which is to commence spring of 2007.

SOCIAL SERVICES JULY 2006 REPORT APPROVED

*****MOTION to accept the July 2006, Social Services report in the amount of \$48,629.11 with the local allotment of \$10,371.83, was made by John Thompson and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

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

The County Administrator advised that upon the recommendation of Supervisor Mr. Ramsey that the part time position within the Department of Social Services had been made full time utilizing the CSA funds. The part time position had been paid _ by the County and _ by DSS. The CSA funds would allow for the 20 hour position to become 40 hours. Benefits are being funding by DSS.

SCHOOLS OCTOBER 2006 REQUISTION APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve and appropriate the October 2006 school board's request in the amount of \$650,000.00, to approve the filing of the meeting minutes of August 28th and September 18, 2006, check registers of August 11th, Vendor payments of July 27th, August 22nd, September 6th, September 7th, payroll and associated check registers of September 11th, was made by Jason Ramsey, seconded by John Thompson.

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

BLAND MEDICAL CLINIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF BID AWARDED

Susan Greever, Director announced that four (4) bids were received for the Bland Clinic expansion/construction. Amber Contracting from Mount Airy, NC was awarded the bid at approximately \$1, 812,000.00. A twenty year payment on the \$900,000.00 loan would be \$5, 780.00 per month at a 4.375% rate.

*****MOTION to approve the Bland Clinic contract award to Amber Contracting was made by Karen Hodock and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

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

FORMER SHERIFF'S OFFICE/JAIL PROPOSAL

Coleman Hamilton appeared before the Board with the request to develop a Hostel for hikers of the Appalachian Trail in the former Sheriff/s Office/Jail building.

IT WAS THE CONSENSUS of the Board to direct the maintenance department to work with Sheriff Thompson on the removal/surplus of items being stored within the building and allow Mr. Hamilton access to the building to assess the needs. It was the Board's desire that the building official access the building and submit a report on costs to occupy the facility.

BLAND COUNTY 4-H CLUB

Elizabeth Johnson, Extension Agent, along with members of the Senior 4-H Club appeared before the Board with a presentation of activities.

Mike Martin, District Director spoke to the Board with the request for funds from the County to partially pay a Family Consumer Science Agent. Mr. Martin noted that the local share from the

County would increase from 16.6% to 20%. Filling the position in F/Y06-07 would be funded within the current budget but would need an additional \$1,500.00 from the County in order to fund in F/Y07-08. Mr. Martin added the funding for the position is shared with Giles County.

COMMISSONER OF REVENUE ADVISES F/Y 06-07 PERSONAL PROPERTY REVENUE SHORTFALL

Cindy Wright, Commissioner of Revenue advised that personal property tax figures provided for the F/Y 06-07 budget would be short because businesses in F/Y 06-07 reduced their inventory by \$6,000,000.00, truck values have decreased in values, and the public service revenues were over budgeted, resulting in a total revenue shortfall for F/Y06-07 of \$110,000.00. The Board requested Mrs. Wright provide the budgeted amounts verses estimated and present at the next meeting.

ANIMAL CONTROL REPORTS

James Belcher, Animal Control Officer appeared before the board with an explanation of his monthly report and advised he would be attending school, October 30th thru November 13th.

SMYTH-BLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT

Harry Shupe, representative reported the monthly statistics for the Library.

RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Randy Moler, representative appeared before the board with comments regarding the attractive improvements made to the courthouse grounds, and advised of the completion of the Community Parks project.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT

County Attorney, Frank Slavin advised of the current zoning violations listed on the circuit court docket.

APPOINTMENTS

Economic Development Authority

*****MOTION to reappoint John Martin and Linda Townley to the Economic Development Authority for 4 year terms, to expire September 30, 2010, was made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

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

Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

This appointment was tabled until the October 26, 2006 meeting.

ASSIGN-A-HIGHWAY PROGRAM RESOLUTION

*****MOTION to adopt the Assign-A-Highway Program Resolution and authorize the chairman to sign was made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

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

SURPLUSSED LIST DECLARED

*****MOTION to declare the item list provided surplus was made by John Thompson and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT EDUCATION POOL RAMSEY APPLICATION APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the Local Government Education Pool Application in the amount of \$330.00, and reimburse Sonya Ramsey upon successful completion of class, was made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

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

FESTIVAL OF LEAVES ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT APPROVED AND FEE WAIVED

*****MOTION to approve the Festival of Leaves Entertainment Permit, waive the permit fee, and authorize the chairman to sign, was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

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

ROCKY GAP WALKING TRAIL - ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION TO 06-07 BUDGET

*****MOTION to appropriate \$12,925.00 from the funds held in LGIP to the F/Y06-07 budget to fund the Rocky Gap walking trail was made by Karen Hodock and seconded by John Thompson.

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

FESTIVAL OF LEAVES PROPERTY USAGE APPLICATION

*****MOTION to approve the Festival of Leaves Property Usage Application to hold a croquet tournament upon the courthouse lawn, on Sunday, October 15, 2006, and authorize the chairman to sign, was made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

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

BLAND COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WAIVE REZONE FEE

*****MOTION to waive the rezone fee of the Board of Supervisors on the application for county property located on Fairground Street was made by John Thompson and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

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

LITTLE CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT GRANT APPLICATION APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the Little Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Fire Safety Board Mini Grant in the amount of \$8000.00, with no local match required, and authorize the county administrator to sign was made by Karen Hodock and seconded by John Thompson.

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

NACO PRESCRIPTION CARD UPDATE

The County Administrator updated the board regarding the NACo Prescription Card Program and the benefits being reaped by citizens of the county.

BLAND COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RANKINGS

The County Administrator advised the board in regard to the County's economic development ranking, jobs created, investment dollars and unemployment rates, stating the results of a three year stern leadership and a solid vision for the county's economic development.

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 Jason Ramsey.

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 in Closed Session was made by John Thompson, seconded by Jason Ramsey.

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

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

Chairman Mr. Blessing opened the public hearing announcing the purpose of the hearing was to receive comment on the application of the Board of Supervisors to rezone from agricultural to commercial, to locate and operate a professional office (5), at 30 Fairground Street in the town of Bland.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

The public hearing was closed by Mr. Blessing.

BOS REZONE APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the Bland County Board of Supervisor's application to rezone, Tax Parcel # 91A2-A.2-SB, located on 30 Fairground Street, Bland, to operate a professional office was made by John Thompson and seconded by Karen Hodock.

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

HAVENS LEASE APPROVED

*****MOTION to ratify and approve the lease agreement with Timothy Havens and authorize the chairman to sign was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by Karen Hodock.

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

ADJOURNMENT This meeting was adjourned until 5:00 p.m., October 26, 2006.

Henry M. Blessing, Chairman

Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator