

Bland County Board of Supervisors  
Regular Meeting, July 23, 2002

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Meeting of the Bland County Board of Supervisors held at the Courthouse, Bland, Virginia on the twenty-third day of July 2002, the following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent.

PRESENT: Frank W. Chandler, Chairman; Wade D. Blankenship, Robert O. Munsey,  
Danny Kinder

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Ron Hachey, County Administrator; Carol J. Hall, Secretary; James E.  
Cornwell, County Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Phipps, Hadley Lester, Virginia Department of Transportation;  
Wayne Quesenberry, The Bland County Messenger; and several citizens

CALL TO ORDER Chair Frank Chandler called the regular meeting to order.

INVOCATION Supervisor Danny Kinder offered the invocation.

PLEDGE ALLIANCE Supervisor Wade Blankenship led the pledge of alliance to the flag.

BOARD APPROVED AGENDA

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the July 23, 2002 agenda as presented was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

CONSENT AGENDA

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes. Items within the Consent Agenda included: 1) minutes of the regular meeting of June 25, 2002; 2) additional bills for the month of June 2002 in the amount of \$73,661.37; 3) bills for the month of July 2002 in the amount of \$128,527.32; 4) payroll for the first half of July 2002 in the amount of \$56,748.21; and 5) reports of the Treasurer, Commissioner of Revenue, Recycling Program, Building Official and E-911 Coordinator.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

VDOT Resident Engineer Frank Phipps updated the Board in regards to the installation of guardrails on Rt. 613 and Rt. 608, the start of construction on Rt. 611, the removal of the bridge deck on Rt. 609, stone being laid in Sadler Subdivision, the service treatment of Rt. 604 that is scheduled to begin shortly and traffic signs being installed on Rt. 613, Rt. 601, Rt. 717 and Rt.

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602.

The Board then discussed the petition that they had received from residents along Route 606 for a speed study. It was noted that the area that needed to be studied was a 2.8-mile section from Route 42 to the beginning of the 45 mph speed zone near the Shiloh Church.

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve a resolution requesting VDOT to undertake a speed study on the 2.8-mile section of Route 606 as referenced above was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Robert Munsey with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

VACO PRESENTATION

VACo staff member Larry Land spoke to the Board with an update on activities of the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo).

RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION FOR RALPH REYNOLDS AND KITTY REYNOLDS ADOPTED

Chairman Frank Chandler read resolutions of appreciation for Ralph Reynolds and Kitty Reynolds. It was noted that Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were not able to be present due to health reasons.

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to adopt resolutions of appreciation recognizing Ralph Reynolds for his service as a member to the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission and recognizing Kitty Reynolds for her service as the parent representative to the CSA/CMPT was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship and Frank Chandler voting yes.

SOCIAL SERVICES

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to adopt the May 2002 Social Services monthly report in the amount of \$71,684.27 with the local match in the amount of \$10,876.35 was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Danny Kinder with Robert Munsey and Frank Chandler voting yes.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR EMPLOYED

The County Administrator Ron Hachey announced to the Board that Linda Johnson has been hired to be the new Social Services Director effective August 19, 2002 replacing retiree Yvonne Endicott.

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**GROSECLOSE HISTORIC MARKER PURCHASE APPROVED**

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to appropriate \$1225.00 for the purchase of a Henry Groseclose historical marker to be placed upon the VDOT right-away in Ceres, to have Marie Groseclose write the wording, and to contact the Ceres Alumni and the Ceres Ruritans to request that they maintain the site was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

**SCHOOLS**

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the Schools' August 2002 requisition in the amount of \$346,045.00 was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Robert Munsey with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

**SCHOOLS' PURCHASE OF PROPERTY**

Superintendent Duane Alderman advised the Supervisors that the School Board had purchased the property located across from the Bland High School at a cost of \$10,000. The site would be used for the much-needed parking during large school events.

**TREASURER JOANN SHEWEY BRIEFS BOARD**

Treasurer JoAnn Shewey reported that Donna Hanshew had been hired to fill the temporary position in the Treasurer's Office until the November election. Also, she noted that the three-year delinquent tax list would be published in the local newspaper. There was a brief discussion about free County vehicle decals for the fire departments and rescue squad members and Mr. Chandler advised Ms. Shewey that the Board would address the issue.

Ms. Shewey then discussed the need for her office to have more operating cash to make change for customers in each of the 3 cash draws. She requested the Board's authorization to have \$150 in each of the cash draws.

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to increase the operating cash in the Treasurer's office from \$175.00 to \$450.00 was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Robert Munsey with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

**SMYTH-BLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY**

Library representative Harry Shupe reported that the Bland Library has purchased a TV, a

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VCR/DVD player, a digital camcorder and a digital camera. Mr. Shupe also noted that the Marion office has a metal CD projector and laptop computer that can be loaned to local governments with a 3-day advance notice.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS

County Attorney James Cornwell updated the Board advising that all the funds from the delinquent tax sale had been collected and that \$188,000 of it will be placed in a 2-year escrow account.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Green Acres Subdivision Request Noise Ordinance

Nancy Wright, Grapefield resident, appeared before the Board on behalf of the citizens in the Green Acres Subdivision with concerns about drug dealing, trespassing and discharging of firearms in a residential area. Ms. Wright advised that the request for help from the local sheriff's department and the state police have been unsuccessful. In regards to noise, the citizens were advised by the Sheriff's Department to appear before the Board of Supervisors and request the adoption of a noise ordinance.

Request for Noise Ordinance from Dry Fork Resident

Dry Fork resident Pete Ferguson spoke to the Board about his dissatisfaction with barking dogs and construction equipment running in the early morning hours near his residence. He pleaded with the board to adopt a noise or nuisance ordinance to protect the residents in the Dry Fork area.

The county attorney was directed to draft a noise ordinance and present it to the board at their August meeting for their review.

Seeds of Life Ministry Request Waiver of Taxes

Earl C. Faulkner requested that the Board waive taxes assessed on property belonging to the Seeds of Life Ministries. He stated that he has been paying taxes on his mobile home and a shed that is located on the property, but that the house on the church property should be exempt from taxes.

Mr. Faulkner was advised that the Commissioner of Revenue makes the decision of taxing properties and the Board of Supervisors has no authority over this tax assessment and the

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waiving of those taxes assessed.

#### APPOINTMENTS

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to appoint Janet Faulkner to the CSA/CMPT as its Parent Representative, for an open-ended term replacing Kitty Reynolds, was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to appoint Brenda Thompson to the Mt. Rogers Planning District Commission to complete Ralph Reynolds' term that expires on December 31, 2003 was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

#### UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS ON AEP'S 765 KV TRANSMISSION LINE

David Muhly , Sierra Club Representative, presented new information to the Board concerning the proposed transmission line. He requested that the Board send a resolution to the USFS opposing the construction of this line.

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to send the USFS a resolution still opposing the AEP transmission line through Bland County was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Robert Munsey with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER'S REQUEST FOR RADIO

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the purchase of a radio for the Animal Control Officer which would be compatible with the E-911 system and would get him off the fire department frequency was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Robert Munsey and Frank Chandler voting yes.

#### APPLACHIAN TRAIL BRIDGE OVER I-77 REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

No action was taken.

#### BLAND COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD'S REQUEST 2002/2003 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the payment of the 2002-2003 annual contribution as requested by the Rescue Squad was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Robert Munsey with Danny Kinder voting no and Frank Chandler voting yes.

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#### MSAG CONTRACT FOR E911 MAPPING/ADDRESSING SERVICES

The County Attorney and the County Administrator were directed to make minor changes to the proposed MSAG contract and upon acceptance of these changes by all board members, authorize the chairman to sign the contract was made by Danny Kinder, seconded by Robert Munsey with Wade Blankenship and Frank Chandler voting yes.

#### MT. ROGERS COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD ANNUAL CONTRACT APPROVED

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to approve the Mount Rogers Community Services Board's Annual Performance 2002-2003 Contract was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder voting no and Frank Chandler voting yes.

The County Administrator was instructed to contact Mental Health and request that they prepare an executive summary of the contract next year since it is a lengthy and complex document.

#### HJR-143 RESOLUTION ADOPTED

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to adopt House Bill #143 encouraging VML and VACo to communicate to the general assembly strategies for a better partnership between local and state governments in securing resources to assist volunteer rescue squads and fire departments and to develop strategies for recruitment and retention of volunteers was made by Wade Blankenship, seconded by Danny Kinder with Robert Munsey and Frank Chandler voting yes.

#### SHERIFF & COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY RESOLUTION

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to adopt a resolution in response to a petition presented by the Green Acres Subdivision residents about criminal activities in their community needing to be addressed and authorize the chairman to sign was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes. The Resolution would to be sent to the Sheriff and to the Commonwealth Attorney's offices.

#### COUNTY REDISTRICTING TO 5 DISTRICTS

The Board briefly reviewed a map showing a proposed redistricting of the county into five districts. The members took no action on the proposal at this time.

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#### LAWN MOWING CONTRACT OF COUNTY PROPERTIES

The County Administrator advised the Board that Four Seasons Lawn and Landscaping has resigned from the mowing of county properties effective August 1, 2002 and therefore, an invitation for bids would need to be advertised.

#### CLOSED SESSION

“Move to go into a closed session to discuss two personnel matters; 1) Clerk of Circuit Court and 2) the delivery of emergency services was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

“Move to return to Regular Session and adopt the following certification of a closed session was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Frank Chandler and Danny Kinder voting yes.

#### CERTIFICATION OF A CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Bland County Board of Supervisors convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative-recorded vote and pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.1-344A, subparagraph 1 of the Code of Virginia and in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344A of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Bland County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bland County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting in which this Certification Resolution applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Bland County Board of Supervisors.

#### DISTRICT III FUNDING

\*\*\*\*\*MOTION to appropriate an additional and approximate amount of \$400 to District III for support of their regular program as well as their van service for Bland County residents was made by Robert Munsey, seconded by Wade Blankenship with Danny Kinder and Frank Chandler voting yes.

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**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

This meeting was adjourned until the next regular meeting of August 27, 2002.

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Frank Chandler, Chairman

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Ron Hachey, Clerk