

At an organizational meeting of the Southampton County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) held in the Board Room of the Southampton County Office Center at 26022 Administration Center Drive, Courtland, Virginia on January 20, 2004, at 7:30 PM.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Douglas A. Chesson, Chairman
James Bradshaw, Vice Chairman
Elma A. Brown
Peter F. Copeland
Thomas Daisey
David M. Holland
Marie Sykes

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Robert L. Barnett, Building Official (Secretary)
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney
Susan H. Wright, County Administration Executive Secretary

Commissioner Chesson called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

He then sought approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2003 regular meeting. Commissioner Brown stated that it was important for the minutes to be free of grammatical errors. Attorney Railey advised that if a person made a statement with grammatical errors, it should be written in the minutes with grammatical errors. Mr. Robert Barnett agreed. Commissioner Brown stated that she thought the 4th sentence from the top of page 1 was a run on sentence. Commissioner Chesson suggested that end quotes (") be added to that sentence in the appropriate places. **Commissioner Brown moved, seconded by Commissioner Sykes, that the minutes be approved with the suggested correction. All were in favor.**

Commissioner Chesson welcomed David Holland, the newest BZA member, and thanked him for his interest in serving the county government.

Mr. Barnett took over the meeting to dispense with organizational matters. He advised that the first order of business was the election of a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary.

He opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. **Commissioner Bradshaw moved, seconded by Commissioner Daisey, that Douglas "Doug" Chesson be nominated for Chairman. All were in favor.**

Mr. Barnett opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman. **Commissioner Sykes nominated James "Jim" Bradshaw for Vice-Chairman. Chairman Chesson seconded the nomination. All were in favor.**

He then opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. **Commissioner Daisy moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Bradshaw, that Robert Barnett be nominated for Secretary. All were in favor.**

Commissioner Daisey wanted to nominate Susan Wright for Assistant Secretary. After discussion, it was determined that they decided last year to change the bylaws to allow for an assistant secretary. Attorney Railey advised that he had not yet changed the bylaws, but would do so. After which, they could nominate Susan Wright for Assistant Secretary.

Chairman Chesson advised that it was necessary to set the times of the meetings. After brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to keep the meeting time at 7:30 PM.

Chairman Chesson mentioned that regarding the Whitfield's public hearing for a variance request held in November, it was brought to his attention that the Whitfield's may not have presented accurate information. After discussion, the Commissioners, with the exception of Commissioner Daisey, thought that they made a good decision based on the information that was presented. (*Note:* Commissioner Daisey was the only Commissioner who voted in opposition to the Whitfield's variance request in November.)

Commissioner Bradshaw reminded Mr. Barnett that per discussion at the November meeting, he was supposed to provide them with information regarding the placement of signs (at recreational fields). Mr. Barnett advised that he would provide it to them when it became available.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Douglas A. Chesson, Chairman

Robert L. Barnett, Secretary