

At a continuation of the regular meeting of September 24, 2012 of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors held in the Board Room of the Southampton County Office Center, 26022 Administration Center Drive, Courtland, Virginia on October 19, 2012 at 10:45 AM.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

Dallas O. Jones, Chairman (Drewryville)  
Dr. Alan W. Edwards Vice-Chairman (Jerusalem)  
Glenn H. Updike (Newsoms)  
Carl J. Faison (Boykins-Branchville)  
Barry T. Porter (Franklin)  
Ronald M. West (Berlin-Ivor)  
S. Bruce Phillips (Capron)

SUPERVISORS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator (Clerk)  
Jon Mendenhall, Deputy County Administrator  
Lynette C. Lowe, Finance Director  
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney  
Cynthia J. Edwards, Administrative Secretary

OTHERS ABSENT

Julien W. Johnson, Jr. Public Utilities Director  
Beth Lewis, Director of Community Development

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order. After the *Pledge of Allegiance*, Supervisor Faison gave the invocation.

Chairman Jones stated they would discuss what Supervisor Glenn Updike was trying to do.

Supervisor Updike asked since we have 33 acres at the Greenville Airport why don't we have somebody on the Board. Another thing is land that is zoned A-1 doesn't carry the same value as airport land does. He wants to know how this land is zoned if it's never been before the Planning Commission. Those are a few questions that he would like to know the answers.

Supervisor Edwards asked that they go back to the beginning. He asked where was this.

Chairman Jones stated they were talking about Greenville County. He said we have 33 acres on the east side of the Greenville Airport. He stated the air strip is not on our part of the land. The air strip is just to the west of it there. He said all we have is just land there.

Supervisor Updike said we have land in Southampton County that is part of the airport itself.

Chairman Jones said yes we have land there.

Supervisor Updike said just because there isn't any asphalt on the land it is still part of the airport.

Chairman Jones said he understood that.

Supervisor Updike said it should be zoned as such.

Mr. Richard Railey said you may find that the airport existed prior to zoning and is grandfathered in. He said he suspected that was the case, but he didn't know.

Chairman Jones said we will talk about that a little later.

Chairman Jones welcomed Congressman Randy Forbes and told him he could come on up to the podium.

Congressman Randy Forbes addressed the Board. He said it was good to see them all and he thanked them for coming out. He said the biggest thing they wanted to do was come out and see if there was anything they could be doing as they go back into this lame duck session and head back into January. He said one of the things we are all realizing is that regardless of what happens after these elections we have got to try to find some common ground to move the country forward and we have got some scary things looking at us with these potential defense cuts that could impact our economy all over. Regardless of what happens and whether we are able to stave those off we have as most of you know we have got some projections that aren't very good as to the number of job losses we could have in Virginia and they are going to have ripple effects that is going to hit all over the state. He said they had had projections of as many as 200,000 job losses that we could have in Virginia. He said that might be high; it might be low. They don't know, but it is something we need to be prepared for and it is something we need to be looking at. Second thing that we need to be trying to do is to see if they can get some kind of legislation to stave that off. They don't know if that is going to work or if it's not going to work. The next thing they are concerned about is what happens to tax rates regardless of where you are on that spectrum. A lot of businesses are very, very concerned about what they are going to be doing. That impacts our economy. We see a number of businesses that asked us the same question – what is going to happen. He said they wish they could tell them, but because they don't know they have to make business decisions now that aren't always the best business decisions, but they are the right thing for them to do in this structure. That impacts all of us. It impacts the economy and it impacts what we see happening to jobs. The Governor has indicated that even when you look at state funding some of the push we have got from Medicaid is going to hugely impact our state budgets and that could mean them cutting back on some other areas if that continues on through. So we have got no legislative days obviously between now and November. In November they go back for several weeks and they are going to be trying to cram a lot of stuff in so they just wanted to come by and listen to you and hear any concerns that you guys might have that you think they should be looking at and anything they can jointly help you with because unfortunately once it starts hitting it will hit fast. It will not be a matter of coming back and saying okay what are you interested in now because they go back up and they will be locked and loaded there for the rest of the year. A couple of big things they are going to be looking at is whether or not they will get a farm bill out because our farmers are really concerned about that. They hope they can get something out before the end of the year but nobody knows whether that is going to happen or not. When you look at all of those things that are funneling in and you may have three or four weeks to try to do it all of them aren't going to get done so we need to see what your priorities are and what you think we should be looking at. He said they appreciated just the opportunity to be here and have this dialogue with you. So with that they would love to hear any thoughts that you may have.

Chairman Jones thanked Mr. Randy Forbes for coming and told him they appreciate it. He said Vice-Chairman Edwards we will start with you if you have any comments.

Supervisor Edwards said Mr. Randy Forbes I have spoken with you at the hospital many times and thank you for coming today. He said one of his biggest concerns was what was going to happen with school funds from state and federal level.

Congressman Randy Forbes said he didn't think anybody could answer it, but he wished they could. He said he couldn't speak for the state, but he could tell you there could be a huge ripple effect because obviously sequestration doesn't just hit on national defense. It hits across the Board to every agency including education and that can be a pretty big cut when you get there. He thinks from the state perspective, at least if you talk to the people from the state level and he didn't necessarily want to speak for them, but what they have indicated to him and the meetings he has had with the governors there big concern is two-fold – one if we see the economy not fire back up then they are going to have less revenues they can use to spend for funding be it education or something else. He still thinks according to the Governor's meeting with them in Washington the big worry that the state has is these new Medicaid requirements and the huge impact of dollars that is going to be on them now. It is an enormous sponge sucking up dollars and the Governor was just showing them that it just emasculates their budget all across the country. He thinks we are going to see a lot of educators who are in the position these people are now - scratching their heads saying what are we going to do, what are we going to do. So they are going to be monitoring it. He said he didn't think they were going to have good reads on that probably even through March of next year because the General Assembly goes back into session this year and I think this is their

short session that they have, but in addition to that they just passed a continuing resolution that will punt a lot of the big issues until March. He said he doesn't think it was a good idea for us to do it because we could have made those decisions so we won't get the answers on that until sometime in February.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Faison.

Supervisor Faison thanked Mr. Randy Forbes. He stated that one of his biggest concerns was jobs and you just talked about cutting jobs in the military and how it was going to affect us in Virginia. He said you are talking about the federal level when you are talking about tax cuts.

Mr. Randy Forbes said yes sir. He said the tax rates right now are scheduled to go up in January automatically and the rates will go back up. That will impact three major areas – one overall tax rates - your rate, my rate, everybody's rate, in addition to that state taxes which will have a huge impact especially on your farmers that is the group that probably gets impacted as much as small business people. But then the second thing is the impact on capital gain rates and those kinds of things. And we normally say how does that impact us on a local level. It impacts us hugely when you look at people who are concerned about whether they are going to start a business, hire people, those kinds of things. Those rate structures are very important to them. Ernest and Young did a study and again he didn't do the study so he can't tell you whether it is accurate or not accurate, but it's just the only one we have out there. He said that Ernest and Young a big national firm that did a study that said when those rates go up it could cost as many as 700,000 jobs across the country. Now how many of those will be impacted in Virginia nobody can tell you, but that's the best analysis right now. That is in addition to the defense cuts. The defense cuts are going to directly impact us because of Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor West.

Supervisor West welcomed Mr. Randy Forbes and thanked him for coming to Southampton County this morning.

Mr. Randy Forbes said thank you for having me.

Supervisor West said he had two questions. He said you recently had a change in staff. He asked if the Emporia office would remain in place or will that remain the same. The second question is about the shipyard of Engles & Huntington and what impact you feel may occur there. First of all Mr. Rick Franklin, a good friend of his, who had been loyal to the state for a long time serving with Mr. Norman Sisisky for eighteen and a half years and he had served with him the entire time he had been in office. He said Mr. Rick Franklin has retired and will no longer be with us. He stated that Mr. Curtis Berg is here with us today. He stated that Mr. Curtis Berg will be here. He further stated that the Emporia office they will not be opening right now. They closed the Emporia office for right now because they thought there was some potential conflict with where that office is located and the potential location of the military using some of those facilities. He said they did not know this when that office was put there. As soon as he found out he immediately pulled it because they believe that it is their responsibility to avoid even the appearance of conflict. He said they would reevaluate that, but they wouldn't be able to reevaluate it before January because all of their leases come up in January. Then they look and a lot will dependent on secretion. Secretion as he had mentioned to you secretion not only cuts defense it cuts education, health care and everything across the board. Also it cuts the funds the amount of money they have available for things like leases of offices and those kinds of things like that. He said they won't know until probably sometime as late as March, but certainly not as early as January. We will make sure we have the same service levels and we will make sure we have people here. He said he would tell you one thing it was going to be a little bit problematic and we talked about it coming up here. He introduced his Chief of Staff, Dee Gilmore, who came down from Washington, DC and Mr. Curtis Berg. He stated that one of their difficulties as you know is that they not only have office hours there, but they have office hours in every locality. With the papers kind of cutting back the way they are it makes it more and more difficult because if we can't let you all know we are there it doesn't do us any good to be there. If any of you all set up and said you were going to meet with constituents next door in an office, but none of them knew you were there then it doesn't do you too much good. They are trying to find out and measure and evaluate there to make sure that they can find ways where we can have case workers there to meet whatever needs are there as they

develop.

Supervisor West asked if the shipyard would see affects immediately.

Mr. Randy Forbes said probably not immediately, but it could. He said there are some surprising things that have happened there. He said this is being bundled up. He said he had never known the military not to plan longer for these kinds of cuts. He said this is a half of trillion dollars in cuts. These are not small; these are enormous cuts that are going to hit the military. He said the axe could swing anywhere. We don't know where it is going to swing at because the department of defense hasn't told anybody yet. Where they think it is going to happen is not on the big guys; they will survive, but on the second and third tier contractors first. Some of them could go away and we won't get them back again. The other place is the ripple effect – car sales, sales of homes, beauty salons, restaurants, and those kinds of things. Then the other thing that could happen and we have seen this with some of the others. We could all of a sudden get a notice saying they are going to lay off a thousand people and that could happen. We don't know that concretely, but that could happen. We are talking about from some of these reports of laying off 150,000 to 200,000 active duty active men and women and that is like during away with the entire Marine Corp overnight. That is a big deal. So we are monitoring that as best we can. He stated the other thing they are worried about is that they have those cuts but then they are constantly moving those ships out of here. We held the Carrier here and everybody applauded for that and that was wonderful, but they pulled out enough amphibious ships to equal about two thirds of jobs on the Carrier so we are fighting to make sure we don't lose any more of that work – not from cuts but just because they want to relocate it to Florida or somewhere else. That is all a political situation it has nothing to do with national security.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Porter.

Supervisor Porter thanked Mr. Randy Forbes for coming to see us today. He said he thought their biggest concerns just like everyone else's are the economy and jobs. He said we are a struggling locality. We have been struggling for several years. We are just starting to get some light at the end of the tunnel and attract some businesses here. With the problems you are having in Washington with the fiscal cliff and the tax rates and the health profile law there is so much uncertainty that businesses are not willing to make a decision or a commitment and that hurts us trying to attract businesses. The message he wants to send is that we really need to work out these problems as soon as possible so we can get the economy rolling again.

Mr. Randy Forbes said there is no question about that. He said the problem you have is that there are really two enormous different directions of how these problems go. It used to be like we had two different roads to get to the same end; well now we have two different ends. He said they spend a lot of time doing what they are doing right now – coming to you and listening. He didn't want to come in here and tell you what we need to do. He wanted to come in here and listen to you guys because you are where the rubber meets the road. They do that to business people across the country. He can you tell you overwhelming that business people are telling him exactly what you have just said. They want us to resolve it, but they don't want to let us resolve it by letting the tax rates go up. If the taxes rates go up, every study and every analysis that we have means that we will lose jobs. That is not him. You can talk to the business people he has talked to. Everyone will tell you the same thing. Most of these guys, the big guys, find a way around it. He said he had had a couple of the big corporations tell him we will get around it. It is the medium size guys which are having a problem and they are the guys investing here and the ones you want. They are the guys who say this, if we take away the mortgage interest deduction that is huge. That is a killer in some projects it just stops. If we raise the tax rates up then some say the project just doesn't work anymore. If I change capital gains rates some of them say I'm not going into the deal. What we need is to give them a little bit of predictability, but the predictability needs to be that we are not going to jerk your rates around six months from now because nobody can go and start a business and then have the rug pulled out from under them six months from now. The other thing that is hitting us is the health care situation. You have talked to the same business people that I have talked to with this new law is going to kill them on start-up companies and other companies in terms of people they are hiring. Restaurants are going to be reducing the number of people they have down. It is going to be huge. Big guys it is not going to impact. He said he had a large company tell him the other day all they will do is cut the health care for their employees and write a \$2,000.00 check to pay the penalty for each person, but small and medium size

companies it is really going to impact them. He said he thought we were going to have to get some stability to that. He said there is a third one that we haven't talked about which the companies always tell them about which is these regulations that we are putting on them. He said every single day a company feels like they are getting hit with another regulation and some of these companies don't have big margins. Some companies have a five percent margin or a ten percent margin, but you add a regulation that is going to cost them \$200,000.00 and all of a sudden you take up all the margin they have to operate with so they start saying until we get certainty in all these things they are not going to open up these businesses and that is a killer. He said there is some good news, but the good news requires us to fix that predictability. The good news is that we really do have a lot of wonderful opportunities in this area for some high tech kind of jobs. We have got Fort Lee now which is going to be the logistics capital of the world. Very few people know just how advanced Fort Lee is going to be. Then you have Langley. You have Rolls Royce. It creates a huge corridor which encompasses all of us. If we can tap into that, we can bring some exciting businesses here for modeling in simulation capabilities and all of those kinds of high tech jobs believe it or not. We are just right to do that in this region, but it is going to require us to get a little stability before people are willing to invest with those numbers. He is hoping like us that we can get that predictability back.

Supervisor Porter said there is one other comment he has and this has to do with energy. He thinks that energy is being used as a political football and he thinks that is being used as a detriment to our economy. He said having spent his life in the energy industry he knows there are so many distortions out there that when the President says a company like Exxon doesn't need any help well what doesn't get out there for some reason is the fact that Exxon is the world's largest energy company. It makes 75% of its income outside the U.S. and it pays taxes outside the U.S. It makes about five or six cents on a gallon of gasoline and folks think that is huge. By the way it is because of Exxon and Chevron that we aren't paying \$10.00 a gallon; we are only paying \$4.00 because if we didn't have those companies we would have companies like Provence-Vincula, The Salt of Middle-East companies, and Russia controlling the industry. He stated that they do keep a percentage of control in the industry. He stated that he just gets frustrated with both sides when it is a distorted picture of the biggest thing we have to hang our hat on in terms of energy gets blasted for no reason at all and becomes distorted out there. He said they have the resources and the commitment to do that, but we seem to want to give them the black eye and assume that they are raking the coals the consumer over the fire when in reality they are keeping consumer funding.

Mr. Randy Forbes said we have given a lot of businesses black eyes whether it is the banking industry or the oil industry or farming right on down the line and the reality is if we continue to do that some of these companies are going to stop doing what they are doing. You are right whether you look at Exxon or similar companies they really have a small percentage over the overall market and believe it or not some of the proposals that have come down will tax them as American companies, but will not tax Shell and some of the other companies that are coming in here. He said he didn't believe that was the right direction for us to go either.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Updike.

Supervisor Updike thanked Mr. Randy Forbes for coming today. He stated that he just wished and prayed that all the representatives of the United States had as much common sense as Mr. Randy Forbes has.

Supervisor West said Amen.

Supervisor Updike said we really appreciate you being here. He said he agreed with 99% of what Mr. Randy Forbes said so he would save the 1% of his ideas, but he was running pretty close. He said his philosophy is that if you use it you pay for it. His biggest concern is that we are passing all this debt down to the children and grandchildren and future generations. He said we cannot in his feeble mind he couldn't possibly figure out steadily increasing the national debt 20 or 30; he thought it was 23 percent now. He said we just can't maintain it. You can't create jobs in this kind of economy. He said the children coming out of college and high school can't find a job and then we have this huge debt. He said he didn't have the answers, he wished he did because he would tell you, but we cannot afford to continue the constant spending. We are going to have to bite the bullet and do whatever it takes to protect the future of our county because the way we are

going now we cannot sustain. It is going to get worse than Spain and Greece and everybody else. You can see what is happening over there and that is where we are headed in his opinion. So his question is how are we going to preserve the pocketbook of our children and grandchildren.

Mr. Randy Forbes said he thought you guys do have the answers because you do it. He is sure that all of you have salvatated some time at wanting to do something else for your constituents because he is sure you look at your buildings sometimes and say it would be nice to have a little fancier this or that, but you don't do it because you know that those chickens are going to come home to roost and you are going to have to pay for them and the only thing you can do is look the neighbors in the eye and say now we are going to have to raise your taxes. Unfortunately the federal government doesn't have to look their neighbors in the eye and so we continue to spend this money. He said he is only one of seventeen members of congress that voted against all these bail outs – every one of them under Bush and Obama. The reason he did it was because he knew they were going to put us where we are right now where we can't pay for them. We are continuing to do it. Then we come back to the situation that Supervisor Edwards raised with does it cut us in education and does it cut us in health care, and other things – well yes it does because we have raised so much debt all of a sudden your debt service becomes so great that you can't do these other things that are priorities. One of the big priorities he still thinks is our national defense and we are getting to the point where we can't do that anymore. He thinks one of the things we have got to start saying is and he hopes at some point they will do what we do – have a balanced budget that just says you can't spend more than you take in. He said that would be a huge step in the right direction, but we have got a long ways to go before we get that under control. He said a few of them are trying anyway because you are right our children are going to carry the future load of this.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips told Mr. Randy Forbes good morning and that it was good to see him. He said he has two questions on farm issues and one comment on a resolution that our Board has passed. He asked that if we don't get a new farm bill are we still under the old farm bill.

Mr. Randy Forbes said only if we continue to pass continuing resolutions which he thought they would continue to do so. He said right now the continuing resolution would keep it in place until March.

Supervisor Phillips asked if the Bush taxes cuts are allowed to expire he said one thing that disturbs him the most is the inheritance laws. He asked if Mr. Randy Forbes if he saw that as a possibility of that going away. He said of course that is a small item in the overall picture, but he asked if he saw any discussion on the possibility of that being extended or maintained.

Mr. Randy Forbes said he did think there was a possibility of that. He said he thought there were a few of these taxes that could be spun out with the estate tax being one. He doesn't think we should have an estate tax because he thinks it is a tax twice once when they earn the money and again just because they died. He said if you are going to have an estate tax he thinks it is a good chance where there is a compromise where they do at least have a high pressure of something such as \$5 million and then they start kicking it in. He said he couldn't tell you that is going to happen, but if he had to wage a bet he would say it is a good bet that at some point in time they pull that out and try to do that, but right now all of that is on the chopping block. He said the estate tax goes back in and he thinks the limit is \$1 million back to a million bucks so it is a pretty whopping tax. The thing that a lot of people forget is that life insurance is included in that so if you just have the right to change the beneficiary on your policy that life insurance is covered in there too. So if you had a half million dollar insurance policy and then you had a farm that might be valued at a \$1 million dollars then you are over that limit and you are paying a pretty whopping percent of what you have.

Supervisor Phillips said right. He said one other thing is that our Board has passed a resolution concerning the proposed tolls on I-95. He said since you have the opportunity to talk to the Governor occasionally our concern is that they have moved the burden of that tax or charge to North Carolina and Virginia and moved it out of the Washington, DC area as about as far as they can do it. He said it is really going to impact the people that have to go to work every day to Petersburg or to Roanoke Rapids. He asked if they could do something more on line of sharing

the burden. Maybe they could move the tolls throughout from the North Carolina border to the Virginia/Maryland border as much as they could to spread that out somehow so the people who have to go to work throughout that little narrow corridor from North Carolina/Virginia border to Stony Creek could get some relief. He said he knew that was right over his line.

Mr. Randy Forbes said first off he loved the Governor. He thought the Governor had done a wonderful job. He said he did a great fiscal job but he and the Governor disagreed on this point. He said regardless of where they try to move the tolls to him tolls are a bad idea unless they are for a specific project. So where a toll he thinks has validity is if they are going to build a road and the only way they can build a road is by having tolls to build that road and they put tolls on for that road, but then when that road is paid for take the tolls off. He thinks that anytime you start using tolls that he collects from you for projects he is not going to do for you he thinks that creates a problem. It is especially wrong in this case because you are exactly right what we do is we had some of the most socially economically challenged communities in our state actually and you are also ruining those individuals because it's not just when they are going to the grocery store, it's when they are going for health care or to get their car repaired or anything and tolls are whopping tolls; they aren't a quarter. Those tolls could be \$6.00 a trip and when you look at the average individual that hits them hard and then you are looking at those retailers who are looking to set up businesses and businesses are concerned when their customers have to add \$6.00 more to come and do business with them. We watch now and there is a major company on the roads because people will come in and look at their products and then they will go back home and order them on line because they don't have to pay a sales tax. If they will do that just for the sales tax he is sure that a lot of retailers know they are going to go somewhere else instead of paying \$6.00 round trip for a toll. He said he thought they were trying to fight that and he thought they were picking up steam for that fight, but he doesn't know how they are ultimately going to come out. He said his fight was not to have them on period as opposed to get them to try to move them. He said they may ultimately agree to move them but he thought it was just as unfair to have it on somebody else. He said on their projects you are paying on projects that are over one hundred miles away which he just doesn't think is equitably fair.

Chairman Jones asked if there were any other questions for Mr. Randy Forbes.

Supervisor Edwards said he would like to ask one more question to Mr. Randy Forbes. He said we all know your stance on the military. You have always stood for a strong military and we all know that money is well spent and most of it stays right here in the county in our economy and we all know what the state of the world is right now. He asked can you explain to him what is the rational thinking behind these premium cuts in the military budgets at this point in time.

Mr. Randy Forbes said if you will take out one adjective and that is the word rational. It is not rational thinking he doesn't think. But he can tell you the thinking and the thinking is just this it is what you mentioned on the death. He said he could tell you exactly where it came from. It came from these stimulus bills because if you look at the exact amount of money we spend on the package with the interest that is the exact amount we are cutting out in defense. What the problem is is that for the first time in his lifetime you have got people in Washington saying here is how much we want to spend on defense and they are not asking what is our risk or what are we doing to defend the country. There is no way you can justify strategically what we are doing and there is no way you can justify it economically and he would take that to debate with anybody, anywhere, anytime. He said we pulled our missile defense systems out of Europe because the Russian's asked us to. He said he thought that was a mistake and he still thinks it was a mistake. What that did is free the Russians up and they have announced now that they are going to spend \$720 billion creating 1600 new planes that are going to be pointed at us. Not a good decision for us. He announced that we were going to have what they call a pivot to the Asian Pacific area with these cuts that are taking place. Remember they have already taken \$800,000 billion dollars out and they are going to take another half of trillion dollars out. We won't be able to make that pivot and the Chinese know that so they are increasing their sovereignty every single day they are moving and claiming more areas. All you have to do is turn the TV on and look at what has happened to the Middle East. He said it is a scary world out there not a time for us to be reducing our military. It is a time when we ought to be saying how can we keep it as strong as possible because it is a great deterrent and it actually keeps other countries from spending more money on their militaries. He doesn't think there is a rational explanation he thinks it is purely an economic one saying we need this money so we will make these cuts. He said we will end up paying for that down the

road. He said it is just going to be a huge price tag when we do it.

Chairman Jones said again we thank you for coming. He said he had a question that he needed to ask. He said on the OLF coming we are left with Greenville County and Craney Island. He said the Greenville County Board of Supervisors had voted against it. City Council voted against it. He said it was going to impact his area more than anywhere else in the county. He said they were going to hoover over most of his area and it was going to impact quite a few people. He asked if the Navy was still going to push if they didn't want them.

Mr. Randy Forbes said he thought they were talking about Wallop's Island instead of Craney Island.

Chairman Jones said yes you are right. I said Craney Island.

Mr. Randy Forbes said he can't always control the Navy, but the assumption has always been that this shouldn't be forced on a locality if they don't want it. They will do what they can to fight the Navy from forcing it on somebody. He said they had a pretty good track record at being able to win those battles, but it could be a battle. He said he can't predict that. He can say they don't tell you what to do and they don't suggest what you should do but when you make that decision and the localities say they don't want it there then we try to go to bat for our localities and say it shouldn't be forced on them.

Chairman Jones said Greenville County would be getting the benefit out of it. We would be getting the noise that is all. Even though we have thirty three acres in there we would be getting no benefit whatsoever.

Mr. Randy Forbes said right.

Chairman Jones said like I said it's in my district and I'm really getting the heat.

Mr. Randy Forbes said I'm sure you are. He said one of the other things and this goes way back on arguing over it, the Navy and the state years ago didn't handle this very well. We have always suggested to both of them that they need to bring the localities in very early on in this process.

Supervisor Edwards said yes.

Mr. Randy Forbes said and they just refused and the state refused the last time too.

Supervisor West said they threw us under the bus.

Mr. Randy Forbes said yes they threw you under the bus and if you remember we had asked them to talk to you and they just ignored us and we found out about it at a press conference sitting there listening and then we were calling you guys saying this is what we just heard. They threw you under the bus. He said we had told the Navy and he said he thought they were beginning to listen to them. He said I don't think you will have that problem with the state again, but he does think sometimes he doesn't know about the Navy. He thinks the Navy will listen to them; he hopes they will because we do have some say over their pocketbooks and he thinks that may help them to at least be receptive to them. He said they would do what they could do.

Supervisor West said for the record that was Mr. Tim Kaine who threw us under the bus.

Mr. Randy Forbes said he wasn't pointing fingers at anybody. He said he was just shocked.

Mr. Randy Forbes thanked the Board. He said their door was open to you. He wanted Mr. Curtis Byrd to be here. He said you can call Mr. Curtis Byrd any time. He said you can call us in DC if you have a particular issue whether it is a farm bill, energy issue, or whatever it is. He said we will give you the direct line number to our staff person that is an expert so you don't have to call a receptionist or anyone. They will tell you what is going on right there you can have me whenever you want me. Sometimes those people know more about it than I'm going to know at that time. He thanked the Board for having them here today.

Chairman Jones thanked Mr. Randy Forbes. He asked if they were going to get a card so they would have the information to get in touch with them.

Mr. Randy Forbes handed the Board members business cards.

Chairman Jones asked if there was any discussion on what they had talked about with Mr. Randy Forbes.

Supervisor Updike asked if they were going to follow up on his two questions on the airport and having someone on their Board.

Chairman Jones stated that they would talk about that, but right now we are going into a closed meeting.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated in accordance with 2.2-3711 (A) (1) Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, it is necessary for this Board to conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the provisions set out in the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, to discuss the performance of specific public officers.

Chairman Jones asked if he had a motion to go into closed session.

Supervisor Edwards made a motion that they go into closed session.

Supervisor West seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Supervisor Edwards read the certification resolution to go back into open session.

#### **RESOLUTION OF CLOSED MEETING**

**WHEREAS, the Southampton County Board of Supervisors had convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and**

**WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southampton County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed and considered by the Southampton County Board of Supervisors.**

Supervisor West made a motion to go back into open session.

Supervisor Porter seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that they did not talk about anything they were not supposed to talk about.

Chairman Jones asked if there was any further business to come before them before they adjourned.

Supervisor Edwards made a motion that they adjourn.

Supervisor West seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

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Dallas O. Jones, Chairman

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Michael W. Johnson, Clerk