

At a regular meeting 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 August 26, 2013 at 6:00 PM.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

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

SUPERVISORS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator (Clerk)
Lynette C. Lowe, Finance Director
Beth Lewis, Director of Community Development
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney
Cynthia J. Edwards, Administrative Secretary

OTHERS ABSENT

Julien W. Johnson, Jr. Public Utilities Director

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Supervisor Faison gave the invocation.

Chairman Jones stated that the first item on the agenda is a closed session.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated it is necessary for this Board to now conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the provisions set out in the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the following purpose:

- 1) In accordance with Section 2.2-3711 (A) (5), to receive a report from Franklin-Southampton Economic Development, Inc. regarding prospective industries where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating its facilities in the community;
- 2) In accordance with Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7), to consult with legal counsel and staff members regarding the Amended and Restated Performance Agreement with Enviva, L.P., where such consultation in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating posture of the governing body.

A motion is required to convene a closed meeting for the purpose described above.

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

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to go into closed session.

Supervisor Edwards seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that at this time he needed the reading of the certification resolution to go back into open session.

Supervisor West 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 adopt the certification resolution.

Supervisor Phillips seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that we are now back in open session and we didn't talk about anything that we weren't supposed to.

Chairman Jones stated that item three was actions arising from the closed meeting and that there were none.

Chairman Jones stated that the next item was number four – Approval of the minutes. He asked if anyone had any problem with the minutes from the last meeting. He stated that thought he needed a motion to approve the minutes.

Supervisor West said that is right. He made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented.

Supervisor Edwards seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated the next item was number five – Highway Matters.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated that item A is an item regarding Rawlings Road designation as a rural rustic project. As you all know, in your current six-year plan, Rawlings Road (Route 654) between Popes Station Road and Southampton Parkway is currently the Board's top unpaved road priority. I was contacted earlier this month by Mr. Lomax advising that he could reduce the overall project cost and expedite this project by using his own forces if the Board would consider converting it to a "Rural Rustic" project. By converting to a Rural Rustic Road project, the costs of preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition are eliminated by simply paving on top of the existing compacted gravel surface while reestablishing existing ditches and shoulders. In doing so, the new hard-surfaced road is on the same horizontal and vertical alignment as the old gravel road, leaving trees, vegetation, side slopes, and open drainage abutting the roadway undisturbed to the maximum extent possible. Included in your agenda packages you have a resolution which would designate this particular project a Rural Rustic Project, saving you both time and money.

Chairman Jones said what say ye Supervisor West.

Supervisor West said it is not in my area, but I will tell you that this is a good way to pave it and I realize that it does save money, and a hard surface is better than the other surface so I favor it.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Phillips. He said this is in your area.

Supervisor Phillips said yes. He stated that Indian Town Road had the same process and it was paved and it had been a big help both dust wise and traffic wise. This is the same process we are looking at for Rawlings Road and he stated that he is definitely in favor of it. He stated he thought

everything was in place and this motion that we are looking at tonight is the final part necessary for us to move forward and get the road paved. Therefore, I will make the motion to adopt the resolution.

Chairman Jones asked if there was anyone else who wanted to say anything about the project on Rawlings Road.

Supervisor Faison said he thought it was a good idea to follow through with paving the road. He stated that he traveled that road sometimes and it would be nice to have it paved.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Updike.

Supervisor Updike stated that it was fine.

Chairman Jones stated that now he would have the motion.

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to adopt the resolution designating Rawlings Road as a rural rustic project.

Supervisor West seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that item B was monthly concerns.

Supervisor Phillips said he thought that Mr. Michael Johnson had something else on highway matters.

Chairman Jones said okay.

Mr. Michael Johnson showed a short power point presentation. He stated just to get you oriented with the interchange. You will see here a few landmarks at the Highway 58 by-pass interchange – those being the Courtland Inn, Dairy Queen and the former IP Building which is located on Old Bridge Road down on the bottom of the screen. He pointed out the natural gas pipeline which crosses Old Bridge Road and comes across Highway 58 between the DMV property and the 7-Eleven and heads west. Looking at the new interchange I will walk through this one piece at the time. There is going to be a new off ramp off of the east bound lane of Route 58 which will cross over the existing Old Bridge Road at the point you see there on the aerial photograph. That ramp is going to terminate into a circular round about and that round-about will connect to an overpass which will go across all four lanes of Highway 58 and then that overpass will connect to an oblong rectangular round-about.

Supervisor Phillips indicated that Mr. Joe Lomax was trying to get Mr. Michael Johnson's attention.

Mr. Joe Lomax spoke with Mr. Michael Johnson.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated that Mr. Joe Lomax said that the rectangular round-about is now going to be another circular round-about where you see the rectangular one. There will be some moderate improvements coming in off of the off ramp of Highway 58 west coming into the town of Courtland to align with that new round-about. So the question is basically how will you get from Courtland to Franklin. That route is going to be basically that you come down Jerusalem Road exit off onto this overpass, cross over all four lanes and you will come down to this round-about located on the bottom of the screen. You will exit off of that and that will carry you on Highway 58 headed east. There will be a third lane added where that Route lines up there, and I don't know why that line isn't lining up there, it didn't on this version of Power point, but it did on the other version. There will be a third lane added all the way to the Dairy Queen. So you have an excel lane coming on to Highway 58 and then you also have a right turn lane which will carry you all the way down to the Dairy Queen. To go the other way basically you will come through that round about in front of the Courtland Inn. You will get off on a ramp there and that will turn you on to an on ramp that will be constructed on the Highway 58 west bound lane and that will carry you down just pass the point where Old Bridge Road crosses. Now in addition to that Old Bridge Road will be realigned to go across the new overpass and the section where it currently goes across all four lanes of Highway 58 will be demolished and you will end up with a cul-de-sac on

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both sides of Highway 58 on the current line of Old Bridge. There is one that will be constructed on the northern side just down past where Mr. Doug Overby's house was just before you get back to the intersection. On the southern side there will be one just line basically at the last property line which is the property line between Southern States Timber and the Cheroenhaka Indian Tribal Foundation. Then there is also some pavement demolition involved with where the current light is now and the demolition I just mentioned on Old Bridge Road. So you end up with a little bit of a bit of an unusual configuration, but Supervisor Phillips wanted everybody to be aware of that and with Mr. Joe Lomax here tonight I just wanted to present this while he was here to answer any questions that you may have. He passed around the latest design plans from today.

Chairman Jones said alright Supervisor Phillips this is in your territory.

Supervisor Phillips said well it is actually in Supervisor Edwards area. He stated that he is still taking a look at the new round-about and thank you for the time you gave me the other day while we discussed this.

Mr. Joe Lomax said yes sir.

Supervisor Phillips said he just wanted to make sure the rest of the Board realized that we had missed an opportunity to have a public hearing. He said he was to some degree concerned after he had talked with Mr. Joe Lomax. He stated that he farmed for a living and he talked to a man who hauls grain out of Petersburg and he said that some of the old round-about that were designed some time ago up around Prince George were a little bit narrow and his trucks were either ending up on the curb or in the other lane. That is the basis for his concern and for making the concerns to you.

Mr. Joe Lomax said the round-about that you see here on the plans that are going around is a lot bigger than what you see on the other set of plans. What we have done is shrink it; we have eliminated a lot of the turns and we have aligned it with the main entrance going into the hotel so it also gives you some extra stacking room with the concerns you had about traffic backing up on Highway 58.

Supervisor Phillips said right.

Mr. Joe Lomax said you get to go down a lot further now before you have to stop. So that round-about is almost identical to the one on the south side of the project. The design will be high speed highway so you should have plenty of room. So the way coming around is now a lot shorter, it is more of a circle and we shouldn't have a problem.

Supervisor Phillips said thank you. Like I said we thank you for this time and we were looking forward to some explanations, but I hadn't expected that much of a change since I talked to you.

Mr. Joe Lomax said let's just say this design came after talking to you. He stated that he started asking questions of his people and they said stop we have changed the design. He said that is how he found out. So needless to say I'm supposed to be told fast so I can let Mr. Michael Johnson know. He stated that he had emailed Mr. Michael Johnson, but he probably hadn't had a chance to read it either.

Mr. Michael Johnson said if you didn't send it until after five o'clock I didn't see it.

Mr. Joe Lomax said he had asked Mr. Jerry Kee to forward it, but he probably got tied up with another issue because we had a fatality on the road so he might have stopped to do that but I have these electronically. If you don't have them I can send them to you. I can send them to anybody's e-mail who would like to have them. He stated that he liked this design better than the other plan.

Supervisor Phillips said it just like what you are saying I saw a possibility for traffic to back up and you would have people trying to come off of Highway 58 at 55 and 60 mph and they have 500 feet to slow down to come into that first round about. He thanked Mr. Joe Lomax.

Mr. Joe Lomax said it's not a problem. He asked if there were any other concerns or if anyone wanted to ask a question.

Supervisor West said he wanted to ask a question.

Chairman Jones said to go ahead.

Supervisor West said this was about Highway 460.

Mr. Joe Lomax said on that he would do his best, but he is not the project manager, but he would pass it along.

Supervisor West said he understands. He said he is hearing rumors and he had been in touch with a couple of people who are contracting and also from VDOT. With that being the case, what is the status right now? I know that the environmental permitting is still in process and it has been delayed because something wasn't done up front. I know the financing is supposedly there, but I'm also understanding now that they need the corp. of engineers because they are being required to look back at the original because of their failure to provide all the impact on the wetlands and things like that. Can you give me any sense on what is going on?

Mr. Joe Lomax said no sir because I wasn't told that I needed to bring that information.

Supervisor West said alright.

Mr. Joe Lomax said I go after what the Board asked me to bring.

Supervisor West said I understand that.

Mr. Joe Lomax said but I can get that for you. I know there was an article in the paper about two weeks ago about getting the corp. of engineers.

Supervisor West said there has been two in the Virginian Pilot recently about unneeded and unnecessary and so forth and so on and spending \$2.1 billion dollars, etc. But, you are not going to make any public statement on this.

Mr. Joe Lomax said you would like to have the status of it. The only thing that I can say is...

Supervisor West said he would like to talk to and have the person that would talk to the citizens in Ivor at a public meeting at the municipal building at their convenience as soon as we can.

Mr. Joe Lomax said will do. I'm understanding that, but we haven't gotten to that point yet so you are in the cue. We have been working on it for weeks, but we haven't got the specific locations yet. He stated that he would pass that on to Mr. Reinhardt in the morning.

Supervisor West said he wanted to comment on two things. Thank you for the railroad track fix in Ivor.

Mr. Joe Lomax said yes sir, not a problem.

Supervisor West said I appreciate that.

Mr. Joe Lomax said you know how hard it is to get them out there.

Supervisor West said it is, but that has been good. Then under the general things I would say it is being passed on by the residents that you are keeping the ditch banks cut much better this year than some years.

Mr. Joe Lomax said thank you.

Supervisor West said and you are using private contractors. I wish they had sharper blades.

Mr. Joe Lomax said he would have to watch that. They might get carried away.

Mr. Joe Lomax said he just had some other information that he wanted to pass on to you all. He said it was just something to think about. He said he wouldn't go through all of this, but he would

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hit the basics. He said they did finish their surface treatment. He said that Highway 671 would be complete by the 13th of September. So, it will be a little bit after school starts, but we should be done with that. The RFP for the Highway 35 Bridge is under review and as I find out any information I will let the Board know and I'll let Mr. Michael Johnson know. I know that is pretty high on the list and we have several people to contact. He said there is one other thing he would like for you to consider thinking about. He stated that sometime ago, and he had talked to Mr. Michael Johnson a little bit about this, but the county had decided they wanted to put some money on the project for paving Governor Darden Road which is Route 646. We had a bridge replacement put ahead of that job. Since then the bridge has been rehabbed and upgraded; and therefore, it does not meet the warrants that constitutes a replacement. But, we still have the replacement on the books. We have \$170,000 sitting there. He said he thought it would be better served than to wait on the additional \$1.8 million which it will take to replace that. We can't get the bridge replaced with that anyway, so we won't get that money. If we take that money we could put it on the next project which would be Fuller's Mill Road. That is just something to think about. Then I can let them take it off because right now it is just sitting on the dash board. The bridge inspectors told us that the bridge meets the requirements that we have. We are not going to put money on a bridge that meets the specs that we have. He is asking us to take it off and put it on several other bridges. He stated that he would write Mr. Michael Johnson an official letter. He said he just wanted to put it out there because they are really pressuring him because when it's sitting on the dashboard it goes to the Governor eventually. If we aren't going to do it we need to be move the money off of that project and put it on storage and come back later when a bridge needs to be replaced. Then make one project. It would be ridiculous to get down there to the bridge and have to go after it again. It is not safe; he wouldn't recommend it. It just doesn't make sense. So, this is just something to think about. You don't have to answer it tonight; it's just something to think about. I will be sending Mr. Michael Johnson an official letter.

Supervisor Phillips said he had one further question. He asked if there were any further updates on the length or if they had come up with how long the contract will be for the bridge closure.

Mr. Joe Lomax said not that he knew of. He said they had talked about less than a year.

Supervisor Edwards said the expected completion date is 11/23/15; that is twelve months.

Mr. Joe Lomax said he thought it was a two year project, but they talked about the bridge being closed for less than a year. He said he didn't know because the person who gives them the RFP may have a way to provide us with something better than what we had talked about. Just so you all know also, Mr. Jack is no longer with the Department.

Supervisor Phillips said Adam?

Mr. Joe Lomax said yes sir. He resigned about three weeks ago. So there is an ad out for a new PE Manager in our district under Mr. Jim Utterback. He will make a decision and hire a man shortly. In the meantime Mr. Dakota is in conjunction with Mr. Jeff Cutright in the central office balancing figures until such time as we hire a person.

Chairman Jones asked if there were any concerns for the month.

Supervisor Phillips said he just wanted to thank you for the Rawlings Road Project and for the good communication that we had.

Mr. Joe Lomax said yes sir.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Edwards.

Supervisor Edwards said he didn't have any concerns this month.

Supervisor West said he wanted to ask a question. These VDOT little things on the side of the road that just says VDOT...

Supervisor Phillips said that is where they are going to put the signs.

Supervisor West said on Highway 623... no it's Highway 614 excuse me, there coming from Zuni

over the Blackwater Bridge there are several little VDOT things does that mean signs – is that what that is about.

Mr. Joe Lomax said he wasn't sure he would have to check.

Supervisor West said that is what it appears to be.

Mr. Joe Lomax said well a lot of times we do mark the pavement for signs, like we did on Cary's Bridge. He said he put Cary's Bridge in the system for a safety review. It is already in the system and they are going to look at it. He said he also just thought of something, Supervisor Faison, the area that keeps washing on that shoulder is being done by a contractor. They are going to replace those pipes and extend them so that area won't keep washing out. That pipe is rusty. I'm having a monthly meeting on bridges and anything that is over 36 inches is considered structural. We are going to start meeting every month. We just had a meeting last month and it was very productive. We pointed out several locations in this residency, with two being in Southampton, one was one that you had been asking about I can't remember the road number, but it was over here next to Guy Place. You have asked about this repeatedly and it is too big for our guys to do so we are getting a contractor. The consultants put it together; the contractors put it in place. In the meantime Mr. Ben Bryant is going to stand over it and watch them.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Updike.

Supervisor Updike said the tractor trailers on Statesville Road are still making a lot of potholes and if we keep waiting a few more minutes it is going to become dangerous. He said they didn't fix the culvert at Barnes Circle Road. People in the Newsoms area complain about the drainage every day. That is a big, big project. The people there have suffered years with water standing over there.

Mr. Joe Lomax said that is bigger than the road and they have got a grant put in for it.

Supervisor Updike said I realize that, but say this is something that still needs to be addressed.

Chairman Jones asked if anyone else had anything.

Supervisor Faison asked Mr. Michael Johnson about the tree.

Mr. Michael Johnson said he shared it with Mr. Jerry Kee earlier this week, late last week, I'm sorry.

Mr. Joe Lomax asked if there was a tree down somewhere.

Mr. Michael Johnson said no this is a tree on old Branchville Road just down past our refuse convenient site that is obstructing your sight distance.

Supervisor Faison said there is actually a tree right there at the entrance to the dump site on Branchville Road and people see that tree as a blind corner.

Mr. Joe Lomax asked if it was on state property.

Supervisor Faison said he didn't know about that.

Mr. Joe Lomax said he appreciated it. He would check and find out. He said he wanted to tell them that they had been going around doing sidewalks at different locations in the county. Right now we are in Ivor. I know we have been to Branchville, Newsoms, Boykins, and Courtland. They are spread out, but we are trying to get the worse places first; then if we get any more funding for it we will come back and keep on where we left off in those different areas.

Supervisor West said Ivor thanks you.

Mr. Joe Lomax said he had talked to the Mayor of Ivor and spent some time out there with her. She said she was very satisfied with what we did.

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Chairman Jones said I just have one question for you, Mr. Lomax. He stated that up near the trash dump up towards Emporia one of the lady's up there called and asked if there was anything that could be done about the limbs that were coming down hanging over her driveway. She can't see what is coming around that curb.

Mr. Joe Lomax said this is on Highway 58.

Chairman Jones said yes.

Mr. Joe Lomax said they would take care of it.

Chairman Jones said just look at it and see whether it is on the state's property. Thank you very much.

Mrs. Linda Vick, of the audience, said can I ask Mr. Joe Lomax a question.

Chairman Jones said you need to talk to your Supervisor and ask him to do this for you or either you can do it at the end during Citizen's Comment Period. If I let you do it, then somebody else has got to do it. I had rather you go through Supervisor Updike or me and then we can address it that way if you don't mind please.

Mrs. Linda Vick, of the audience, said okay.

Chairman Jones stated that we would move on to item number six – Appointments.

Mr. Michael Johnson said item A. is an appointment to the litter control council. On August 1, Mr. Will Haas (Berlin-Ivor) resigned from the Litter Control Council citing difficulty in attending meetings. We need another appointee from Supervisor West.

Supervisor West said that will be ready for you next month; I do not have it now, but I have somebody in mind already.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated that item B. is an appointment to the Board of Building Code Appeals. On September 30, Mr. E. P. Kea, Jr.'s (Berlin-Ivor) term on the Board of Building Code Appeals will expire. The Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) provides that members of the BBBCA should be selected on the basis of their ability to render fair and competent decisions regarding application of the USBC and should, to the extent possible, represent different occupational or professional fields relating to the construction industry. At least one member should be an experienced builder; at least one member should be a registered design professional (architect or engineer), and at least one member should be an experienced property manager. Mr. Kea is an experienced builder. Other current members currently include Jason Fowler (Design Professional), Sonny Draper (Builder), Bob Edwards, and Gary Banks.

Supervisor West said again he has called Buddy and they just haven't gotten together.

Supervisor Faison said Buddy isn't a resident of our county now isn't that an issue.

Supervisor Updike said right.

Supervisor West said he lives on Highway 460. He's good to go.

Mr. Michael Johnson said item C. is an appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals. On September 30, Mr. Ellis Wright's term on the Board of Zoning Appeals will expire. Mr. Wright represents the Drewryville District and was appointed to fill the remaining unexpired term of David Holland in August 2012.

Chairman Jones said he hadn't been able to contact Mr. Wright. He stated that he thought he had been in the hospital sick. He said he would have it for the next meeting.

Mr. Michael Johnsons stated that item D. is the Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT). In order to receive state funds for delivery of services mandated by the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA), the county is required to establish a community policy and management team

to cooperatively manage the needs of troubled and at-risk youths and their families. The team is composed of one designee from the governing body (Mrs. Lowe), and the local agency heads or designees of the Community Services Board, Juvenile Court Services Unit, Department of Health, Department of Social Services and the local School Division. The statute also provides that the team must include a parent representative. Included with your agenda packages you will see correspondence from our local CSA Coordinator, Amy Lehman, seeking your consideration in appointing Ms. Joy Eaton of Sedley to the CPMT as a parent representative for a term commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2015.

Chairman Jones asked if he could get a motion.

Supervisor Edwards made a motion to appoint Ms. Eaton as a parent representative on the CPMT. He said he thought this was very appropriate.

Supervisor Faison seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that we would move to item E.

Mr. Michael Johnson said item E. is the Southeastern Public Service Authority. As you may recall, House Bill 1872 approved by the General Assembly in 2009 provided three things:

- Each locality shall nominate three potential directors who “possess general business knowledge” and cannot be an elected official;
- The Governor shall appoint one director from the list of nominees submitted by the member localities;
- Board members are appointed by the Governor for terms of 4 years. Vacancies for reasons other than expiration of a term are filled for remainder of unexpired term. Members are limited to two 4 year terms.

All of the Governor’s current appointees’ terms are due to expire at the end of December. SPSA’s General Council has been in touch with the Governor’s Office regarding the reappointment process and provided a report at last month’s SPSA Board meeting.

Based on advice from the Governor’s Office, if a SPSA member community wishes to nominate its current Board representative and the representative wished to continue service, then the community should nominate the incumbent, noting its preference that the incumbent be reappointed by the Governor, but also nominate one other alternative for consideration.

Alternately, if a SPSA member community does not wish to nominate its current Board representative and/or the current representative does not wish to continue service, then the community should nominate three individuals, consistent with HB1872 and may indicate a preference among the three candidates if it wishes.

The Governor is expected to announce the appointments in early November, and the appointees will have to be confirmed by the General Assembly within 30 days after the session begins next January.

The Governor’s Office has asked for nominees to be submitted no later than October 15, 2013. As you know, our gubernatorial representative is Mr. Roy Chesson, formerly a representative of the Berlin-Ivor District. Mr. Chesson moved to Smithfield last year. Residency is not a statutory requirement for nomination, but if the Board prefers appointment of a Southampton County resident, you’ll need to develop a list of three nominees no later than your September 23 meeting. While the nominations are submitted online, I’ll need a current resume for each candidate in order to submit the nominations.

Serving the Commonwealth of Virginia on the SPSA Board is both an honor and a privilege. Public service, however, is not for everyone. Individuals agreeing to serve should be aware of the following:

- As expected in an open and democratic government, the activities of the SPSA Board are subject to public and press scrutiny:

- Nominees who are selected by the Governor to serve will be required to complete an annual financial disclosure statement as a condition of serving;
- The SPSA Board meets once monthly on the 4th Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in Chesapeake – meetings generally last about 2 hours.
- Service on the SPSA Board is voluntary – members are not paid a stipend or reimbursed for travel expenses to meetings.

Chairman Jones said you have heard what Mr. Michael Johnson has said; now you have to decide if you want to let him stay where he is or get somebody else.

Supervisor West said he would like to make a couple of comments. One is we are meeting Tuesday night so the last time I spoke with Mr. Chesson he was willing to continue. He does live in Smithfield. Number two he is very active in attending the regular local meetings as well as the larger SPSA meetings and number three is he works in a municipality situation. He knows things and he is our neighbor since he is in Isle of Wight. With that being the case he understands the process and with his experience I think he would be willing to continue certainly if you would like him to. I know he is not a resident but he did live in the Unity community. He is no longer there so in that way I would say if you would a local person that would be good. But he is knowledgeable, attends the meetings, is active, and respected, and does a good job.

Chairman Jones said does anybody else have anything.

Supervisor Edwards said it sounds we have a proven product there. I think we ought to try to go with that.

Supervisor Porter said he thought we should have our own representative. I'm sorry, but he doesn't have a stake in the county any longer so I don't think he would necessarily represent our interest as a county representative.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Updike.

Supervisor Updike stated that he agreed with Supervisor Porter. I think we should have our own representative. He might have served excellent the last couple of years, but this is our county and we should have our people serving on these things. I think we should have our own representative on board.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Faison.

Supervisor Faison said he agreed with that. He thought we should, as much as possible when appointing someone to it, have someone from the county.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips said with the negotiations or concerns we have about SPSA at this point I think we need a county resident representing our interest.

Supervisor Jones called on Supervisor West.

Supervisor West said he was fine with that and he would just like to commend Mr. Roy Chesson for doing a good job. I don't think he is prejudice in his position in any way and I think Mr. Michael Johnson will confirm that. He had an advantage in being our representative and it started out well and circumstances moved him somewhere else.

Supervisor Phillips said right.

Supervisor West said he can certainly see where that would be a reasonable thing and he would be in support of that. If you choose that person you are talking about getting three now.

Chairman Jones said right.

Supervisor West said it would be three now instead of one and one. So we would get three and

that process would start over as soon as possible. He said he would favor it and it will be fine. He stated that he thanked Supervisor Edwards for supporting the support and that is good.

Chairman Jones asked Supervisor Porter if he wanted to nominate a person.

Supervisor Porter said he would try to find somebody.

Chairman Jones asked if anybody else wanted to volunteer to find somebody.

Supervisor Phillips said he would try. We need three.

Chairman Jones said well that's what I'm saying we need more than one.

Supervisor Faison said he thought it would be a good idea if they all brought in the name of one person.

Supervisor West said he thought it would be a good idea too. He said why don't we all bring one name next month.

Chairman Jones said we need to all bring in a name if we can. He stated that they needed to get a copy of the requirements from Mr. Michael Johnson so they can see what they are going to get into. There is no pay.

Supervisor West said it's a pretty high paying job.

Chairman Jones said yeah it's a high paying job. He said if we have volunteers we can save money.

Mr. Michael Johnson said so each board member is planning on bringing in a nominee next month and then you will develop your short list from that, and once you develop that short list you will need to let them know I'm going to need a resume because that middle process is online. I've got to have that in order to do the nomination.

Chairman Jones said that's why I want them to get a copy of the requirements list from you. I need one. We need to let them know up front what they are in for. He asked if anyone had anything else on that.

Chairman Jones stated that now we would go to item number seven – Reports. Reports were Sheriff's Office.

Supervisor Updike said he would like to address a concern, but this might not be the proper place to bring it up. We have got quite a bit of concern in recent months over crime in our area especially over in Newsoms. The people in Newsoms have never been used to it. They are looking for people I guess from the Sheriff's Office to train county citizen watch groups and go to the different clubs, churches, and whatever. It is a whole lot better to have a hundred different eyes and ears looking out for your community. There is one group here in Courtland. The second concern is the response time. If the deputies are farther out west the response time even if they turn the sirens up and go as fast as they can it will take an hour or more, sometimes it might take as much as two or three hours before the deputies can show up. We need to look at the placement of officers in different locations and cut down on response time. He stated that he would like to publicly thank Newsoms and the Newsoms Sheriff and cops for all the good work they have been doing in supporting the fire and rescue squads. This is out in the county and we need to work with the town cops and things like this to get a lot better service for the citizens of the county. This is something that we need to do something about before the crime wave really hits. We need to nip it in the bud and keep our county safe and gang free as much as possible. This is something that we need to look at. It should be a concern for all citizens of the county not just in Newsoms. I know some neighbors home got broken in and they are scared to death. They are putting in alarms in their home for protection because when they go home and find their home has been broken into they are afraid to go in the house. The thing about this is that something needs to be done now. This is something to think about. It is something that we need to work together as far as the police, the county administration, and the towns to come up with something where the citizens will be better served in the county. Our plan now should be to supply additional funds and have that

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ready for next year's budget hearing. We don't have any money now, period. So, it is not a question of money now; it is a question of operation, it is a question of volunteering so that is their concerns and it is my opinion that something needs to be done.

Chairman Jones said you have heard this. Can you talk to the Sheriff and ask him about this?

Mr. Michael Johnson said he would suggest that Supervisor Updike and the Sheriff get together since they are both elected officials. I will be glad to sit in with him.

Supervisor Updike said I think this concerns all of the county, not just Newsoms. I think this should be a work between the county and the town government. I think this needs the county's leadership and involvement.

Supervisor West said he had a similar issue and he has some concerns that you have expressed. I echo some of the comments that you have made, but I will tell you that he is willing to meet in a building as he came to our church. And, a number of the people met with the Sheriff himself. He is willing to do that. We started by initiating in his office and from, there he was willing to set it up and meet individually. There is crime effort in Southampton County in a big way. There are breaking and enterings that have affected my son in just the last seven days. This is occurring to people everywhere and what you have said as far as the old neighborhood watch and you are talking about the community whatever. It is the same thing. We need to be aware of that and it needs to start with the Sheriff and one on one. I feel some need to sit down and talk with him as a Board member.

Supervisor Edwards said it sounds like we need to invite our Sheriff to come to the next meeting or whatever meeting we deem and talk to everybody since this is a county wide thing. That would be the simplest way to get it done without having us go one on one.

Supervisor West said well he has responded to one on one.

Chairman Jones said yes I know he has.

Supervisor Updike said we need to campaign to inform the citizens and nip this crime rate in the bud.

Supervisor West said it is blossoming Supervisor Updike it's not budding. It is substantial what is happening with people looking everywhere and watching your patterns and movement and stuff. The Sheriff has said in talking with our people that there are two or three deputies in the county active during the nighttime. It is way too much to try to cover 600 square miles with two deputies. But then it goes back to the number of persons on the road.

Chairman Jones asked if anybody else had any comment on this.

Supervisor Faison said he agrees that something needs to be done, but the communications of the Sheriff's office is something that has to be considered as you pointed out. But, whatever we can do as a board or citizens would be good so I think it would be a good idea to talk to the Sheriff.

Supervisor West said I think we need to take our county back and be responsible citizens. We need to initiate that. I think it is a wonderful idea.

Chairman Jones asked Mr. Michael Johnson if he would contact the Sheriff and ask him if he can attend the next meeting.

Mr. Michael Johnson said if that is what the Board would like.

Chairman Jones said yes we would like that. Chairman Jones thanked Supervisor Updike.

Chairman Jones stated that other reports were Animal Control, Litter Control, and Building Permits.

Supervisor West said he was curious about the litter control. He stated that four bags of litter were collected in July from 28 assigned people. That's not much trash is it?

Chairman Jones said it really isn't.

Supervisor Updike said that's a good thing if we don't have a lot of trash lying around.

Chairman Jones said well in that case it depends on where you are.

Supervisor West said isn't that the Sheriff's Deputy with the guys I see out here on Highway 58.

Mr. Michael Johnson said its officer Griggs.

Supervisor West said officer Griggs, okay.

Chairman Jones stated other reports are Cooperative Extension, Solid Waste Quantities, and Personnel. He asked Mr. Michael Johnson if he had any changes in personnel.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated that he had just a couple of things to report very quickly. He stated that we had two employees hired during the month – David B. Grizzard effective July 15th in the Department of Utilities with an annual salary of \$25,780 and Jamar R. Sellers also in the Department of Utilities effective July 30th with an annual salary of \$23,383.

Chairman Jones asked if anyone had any questions on this.

Chairman Jones stated that we would move to item number eight – Financial Matters.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated that item A is your year end, August for June, FY 2013 appropriation resolution. You have got a copy of it in your agenda. It is a total appropriation of \$2,593,473.70. Much like last month, this appropriation is largely a housekeeping measure, reallocating funds among various line items within department budgets, with little overall budgetary impact. Revenues have been received from the sources indicated in the resolution. The appropriation includes \$23,283.23 for the General Fund, \$44,181.48 for the School Operating Fund, \$63,275.07 for the School Food Service Fund, \$1,565,159.92 for the Building Fund, and \$897,574.00 for the Enterprise Fund. The resolution does include \$2,190.64 in new money - \$2,090 for detention of juvenile offenders, and \$100.64 for local matching funds associated with the Comprehensive Services Act.

Chairman Jones said you have heard about the appropriation resolution do you have any questions on it? If not, I'll need a motion to approve it.

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Southampton County, Virginia on Monday, August 26, 2013

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Southampton County, Virginia that the following appropriations be and hereby are made from the Fund to the Fund for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 for the function and purpose indicated:

From the General Fund to the General Operating Fund to be expended only on order of the Board of Supervisors:

4-100-11010-5648	Paul D. Camp Community College	500.00
13200-5210	Postal Services	(413.25)
13200-6001	Office Supplies	(1,286.75)
13200-8201	Equipment	1,700.00
21700-1100	Salaries & Wages Regular	(9,236.85)
21700-2100	FICA	(1,779.88)
21700-2210	Retirement	(1,418.86)
21700-2215	Retirement - Employee Share	(1,238.43)
21700-2300	Hospital Plan	(3,007.00)
21700-2400	Group Insurance	(318.98)
31200-1930	Grant (ARRA) - Byrne – Equipment	(2,848.00)
31200-1935	Grant (ARRA) Byrne - LE Block Grant	2,848.00
31200-5500	Travel Convention, Education	1,715.00
31400-3320	Maintenance Service Contracts	(1,371.36)

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31400-5230	Telecommunications	(9,628.64)
33100-3110	Professional Health Service	28,000.00
33300-3166	Purchase of Service & HM Care – Detention	2,090.00
43000-1360	VDOT Inmate Labor	880.89
43000-2100	FICA	91.11
43000-5110	Electrical Services	110.54
53500-5667	Standard Allocation	311.57
72500-5650	Rebecca Vaughan House Project	17,584.12
		<hr/>
		23,283.23

From the General Fund to the Virginia
Public Assistance Operating Fund to
be expended only on order of the Social
Services Board of Southampton County:

4-201-53100-1100-309	Salary	(390.00)
4-201-53100-6001-309	Office Supplies	390.00
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	0.00

From the General Fund to the School
Operating Fund to be expended only
on order of the Southampton County
School Board:

4-205-61100-2300-002- -100	Hospitalization	(6,016.92)
61100-2300-003- -100	Hospitalization	(1,247.57)
61100-6000-003-5-100	Materials & Supplies – Other	400.00
61100-3000-003-5-100	Other Instructional Costs - Other	0.00
61210-1120-002-1-100	Guidance Services Salary – Reg	(559.00)
61210-2300-002- -100	Hospitalization	(636.00)
61210-5500-002-1-100	Travel (mileage) – Reg	(200.55)
61210-6000-002-1-100	Materials & Supplies – Reg	(1,299.00)
61310-5500-003-1-100	Travel (mileage) – Reg	(71.55)
61410-5500-002- -100	Travel (mileage) – Reg	2,558.67
62120-5500	Travel (mileage) - Reg	340.18
62170-3180	Other Contractual Services	0.00
63200-2300	Hospitalization	(2,399.21)
64200-5101	Heating Service - Gas, Oil & Coal	19,156.65
64200-5101	Heating Service - Gas, Oil & Coal	4,537.48
64200-6002	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	15,207.97
64200-6002	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	2,100.00
64200-6002	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	1,692.03
64400-3320	Maintenance Service Contracts	0.00
66200-8200	Site Improvement & Maintenance	0.00
68100-5001-09- -100	Telecommunications	0.00
68100-8300-09- -100	Techn Hardware Repl	1,087.35
68100-8300-09- -100	Techn Hardware Repl	5,545.96
68100-8350-09- -100	Techn Hardware Additions	5,000.00
68200-5500-9- -100	Travel	(1,015.01)
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	44,181.48

4-207-65100-6002	Food Costs	63,275.07
		<hr/>
	TOTAL FOOD SERVICE FUND	63,275.07

From the Local Utility Tax Building Fund
to the Operating Local Utility Tax Building
Fund to be expended only on order of the
Southampton County Board of Supervisors

4-300-94000-8250	Turner Tract Development-Non-Utility	1,516,924.92
4-300-94000-8252	Turner Tract/Rose Valley Road	30,100.00
4-300-94000-8255	Trustee Fee/Regions Bk/Cost of Issue	2,500.00
4-300-94000-8256	Turner Tract - Cemetary Reloc – Grant	15,635.00
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	1,565,159.92

From the Enterprise Fund to the
 Operating Enterprise Fund to be
 expended only on order of the
 Board of Supervisors:

4-500-89400-8330	Boykins WWTP Upgrade	897,574.00
89500-1200	Over-time Salaries	10,845.48
89500-1800	Salary Supplement – Bonus	1,000.00
89500-3150	Legal Service	8,157.00
89500-3185	Lab Testing Service	17,846.36
89500-3310	Repair & Maintenance	(17,846.36)
89500-3320	Maintenance Service Contracts	(4,298.45)
89500-3845	Transfer Refuse to Suffolk	4,298.45
89500-5110	Electrical Services	(13,670.31)
89500-5130	Water & Sewer	1,824.83
89500-6007	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	(14,656.49)
89500-6009	Vehicle Supplies	6,795.12
89500-6075	Chemicals	5,640.62
89500-6076	Chlorine & Sulfur Dioxide	2,220.75
89500-8201	Equipment	(16,642.10)
89500-8221	Engineering/Construction	4,400.00
89500-9107	VRA-Boykins WWTP Upgrade Debt	4,085.10
89600-1100	Salaries & Wages Reg	23,082.16)
89600-1200	Over-time Salaries	8,750.68
89600-1320	Annual Leave	6,339.99
89600-1330	Comp Leave	3,179.22
89600-1335	Holiday Leave	3,312.27
89600-1800	Salary Supplement - Bonus	500.00
89600-3310	Repair & Maintenance	(18,339.37)
89600-5210	Postal Service	1,680.00
89600-6007	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	10,339.87
89600-8221	Engineering/Construction	6,319.50

TOTAL 897,574.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURE APPROPRIATION 2,593,473.70

REVENUE APPROPRIATION AUGUST FOR JUNE 2013
 (REVENUE RECEIVED FOR ABOVE EXPENDITURES)

3-100-18030-0003	Expenditure Refunds	972.00
18030-0003	Expenditure Refunds	110.54
18030-0003	Expenditure Refunds	500.00
18990-0004	Passport Application Mail Cost/Clerk	(361.64)
18990-0005	Copier Reimb/Clerks Office	361.64
24040-0052	Comprehensive Services Act	210.93
24040-0057	Historical Society Grant-1831	17,584.12
24040-0081	911 Education Grant - Grant ID	1,715.00
33010-0820	ARRA - Byrne Grant - Equipment	(2,848.00)
33010-0825	ARRA - Byrne - LE Block Grant	2,848.00
41050-0005	Transfer In - General Fund Reserve	2,090.00
41050-0005	Transfer In - General Fund Reserve	100.64

REVENUE GENERAL FUND 23,283.23

3-205-15020-0010	Tuition	2,100.00
15020-0010	Tuition	400.00
16120-0010	Day Care Center	0.00
18990-0100	Expenditure Refunds	19,156.65
18990-0100	Expenditure Refunds	4,537.48
18990-0100	Expenditure Refunds	15,207.97
18990-0200	E-Rates Refund	0.00
24020-0020	Basic School Aid	2,321.01
24020-1025	Algebra Readiness	0.00
25020-1028	Career & Technical Education	0.00
33010-0010	Adult Basic Education	458.37
33020-0290	VIB Pre-School Incentive -	900 0.00

REVENUE SCHOOL FUND TOTAL 44,181.48

3-207-61010-0002	SL4 Cafeteria	13,352.31
3-207-61010-0003	Food Service (21)	(13,352.31)
3-207-61010-0016	Transfer from Reserve/Bank Account	63,275.07
		<hr/>
	REVENUE SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE	63,275.07
3-300-18990-0003	Refunds	30,100.00
3-300-18990-0060	T Tract/Brownfield Grant/VRA	15,635.00
3-300-61010-0001	Reserve Funds	1,516,924.92
3-300-61010-0001	Reserve Funds	2,500.00
		<hr/>
	REVENUE UTIL TAX BUILDING FUND	TOTAL
		1,565,159.92
3-500-16400-0004	VRA Loan Proceeds/BWWTP Upgrade	897,574.00
	REVENUE ENTERPRISE FUND	TOTAL
		<hr/> 897,574.00
		=====
	TOTAL REVENUE APPROPRIATION	2,593,473.70
		=====

A copy teste: _____, Clerk
Michael W. Johnson

Southampton County Board of Supervisors
August 26, 2013

APPROPRIATION - AUGUST 26, 2013

NEW MONEY REQUIRED FOR AUGUST FOR JUNE 30, 2013 APPROPRIATION

GENERAL FUND

2,090.00	PROBATION/PURCH OF SERV & HOME CARE-DETENTION
100.64	COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT/LOCAL MATCH OF STATE FUNDS
<hr/> 2,190.64	TOTAL NEW MONEY/GENERAL FUND

APPROPRIATION -- AUGUST FOR JUNE, 2013

13200 REGISTRAR	Move line item budget to cover cost of safe for Registrar's office (net effect on budget -0-)
21700 BAILIFF	Move line item budget to detention (-\$17,000.00)
31200 SHERIFF-LAW ENFORCEMENT	(1) Reimbursement for training through 911-Education Grant (\$1715.00) (2) To move to appropriate budget line no overall effect on 31200 budget (-0-)
31400 E911	Move line item budget to detention (-11,000.00)
33100 DETENTION	Budget money moved from Bailiff (\$17,000.00) and from E911 (\$11,000.00) for inmate medical bills
33300 PROBATION	Final bill came in after July for June appropriation NEW MONEY needed (\$2,090.00)
43000 BLDGS & GROUNDS	(1) Reimb received from VDOT for inmate labor (\$972.00) (2) Reimb from Enviva for electrical services at the IP bldg. (\$110.54)
53500 COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT	Final billing for June Services State funds (\$210.93) and NEW LOCAL MONEY (\$100.64)
72500 HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Grant reimb received for 1831 Trail (\$17,584.12)
SOCIAL SERVICES	To move funds to appropriate line item (net effect -0-)
SCHOOL FUND	Final school board appropriation for FY2013 - see

attached letters

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE (1) To move funds from cash account/savings to be utilized in FY2013/funds are food svc monies
(2) To match appropriation to actual funds coming in (\$ 13352.31 - \$13352.31 = -0- net effect)

BUILDING FUND (1) Grant accts rec for Cemetary Relocation at Turner Tract Site (\$15,635.00)
(2) Bond Funds utilized for Turner Tract project in FY2013 (\$1,516,924.92 + 2500.00)
(3) money from VDOT for Rose Valley Road (\$30,100.00)

ENTERPRISE FUND (1) Proceeds used for Boykins WWTP Upgrade
(2) Items moved within Enterprise line items for end of year clean up. No overall change to bottom line budget.

Supervisor West made a motion to adopt the attached appropriation resolution.

Supervisor Faison seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that item B was the bills. He asked if anyone had any concerns about the bills. If not, I'll need a motion to pay the bills.

Supervisor Edwards made a motion seconded by Supervisor West to pay the bills in the amount of \$1,816,428.70 to be paid by check numbers 132170 through 132576. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated the next item of business is number 9 – Capital Funding Request.

Mr. Michael Johnson said item number as you will see is a capital funding request. In your agenda you will find a capital funding request from the Branchville Volunteer Fire Department to assist them in paying down the loan on Engine 22. Capital funding in specified amounts has been set aside annually for each fire department and rescue squad since FY 2000. These funds are held in escrow until a request to draw them down is approved by the Board of Supervisors. Escrowed funds continue to accrue for each department/squad if they are not drawn down on an annual basis. You have a spreadsheet which illustrates the capital appropriations since FY 2000. As you can see, we are holding \$14,000 (FY 2014) in escrow for the Branchville Volunteer Fire Department. To date, we've collectively appropriated \$1,752,500 for fire and rescue improvements and are holding \$427,500 in escrow.

Chairman Jones asked Supervisor Faison if he would make that motion.

Supervisor Faison made a motion to approve the capital funding request for the Branchville Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$14,000.

Supervisor Phillips seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that we would go to item number 10 – Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the issuance and sale of a revenue anticipation note.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated as we talked about at your retreat on August 10, Mr. David Britt, and Mrs. Lynette Lowe have advised me that the cash flow will likely be insufficient to cover anticipated expenditures for the months of August, September, October, and perhaps November. Section 15.2-2629 of the Public Finance Act provides that localities may borrow money and issue a note of anticipation of the collection of taxes for the current year provided that the amount of the note may not exceed anticipated revenues. As shared with you by email on August 14, we received only one financing proposal from SunTrust Bank. They offered a variable rate, tax-exempt, bank qualified, non-revolving line of credit. The proposed rate is 65% of the (1 Month LIBOR rate + 1.75%), which currently equals 1.26%. The 1 month LIBOR is 5 basis points lower (0.19) than it was at the same time last year. The line of credit is for up to \$3.5 million, but will

only be drawn down as Mrs. Lynette Lowe and Mr. David Britt deem necessary. The note will mature on 12/31/13, but I would expect to have it fully paid off well in advance of that, most likely by the end of November. There is no prepayment penalty. The bank is charging a fee of \$6,000 + its cost of issuance which is estimated at \$2,500 or less. They also require the opinion of bond counsel (McGuire Woods) which I expect to cost approximately \$7,500. At the current rate, interest will accrue at roughly \$35/day for each \$1 million that is outstanding. As you may recall from last year, the Board is required to adopt a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of the revenue anticipation note, before the Treasurer may act. You have a draft copy of the required resolution including the Form of Note, for your reference in the agenda package.

Chairman Jones asked if anyone had any questions on this.

Supervisor Edwards said last year it costs us about what - \$20,000?

Mr. Michael Johnson said in round numbers about \$20,000.

Chairman Jones asked Supervisor Updike if he had anything.

Supervisor Updike said until we accept the fact that we have financial problems we are going to continue to look at the same facts year after year. When I was in school I didn't take too many courses, but one course I did take was looking at the trend lines in economics. I went back and looked at the trend lines on our situation in the county over the past few years and I can tell you that it is not improving. It is expanding every year. We are borrowing more money to cover the operating costs. I understand the feelings of the people who say let the government go broke. We have to do something to make us realize that we are in financial difficulties. To back up that point we tried to redo and reduce the rate of the sewage treatment and not a single bond person made a single bid. The reason they gave was that two consecutive years of cash flow problems and our indebtedness. That should tell us something. And, the reason for it, and there is more than one reason, is that we are planning three months of negotiations with the public to come up with a budget. The Board, the citizens, and the Administration came up with a plan, but what happens, before the print gets dry on the budget we are out spending more money. Last year on various projects that we know it will be years before we are able to do anything about it. I can give you lot of examples. One of them is hiring a consultant for a security system. It will be years before we will be able to do anything about it and that plan will be obsolete. We go from one thing to another thing and we do not follow the budget at all. I don't think it is right. We have to realize that we are in financial difficulties. We have got put it at the top of our budget list on how we are going to increase the general funds so this doesn't happen every year. It is going to cost us financially when the bond issuing people won't even issue us money to buy the bonds. We are in trouble. I know to keep the county from being shut down we are going to have to do it, but it is a bitter, bitter pill to swallow. It just goes again my grain in every way, shape, or form, but we have to do it.

Supervisor West said he would like to respond if I may and you all may think I'm crazy.

Supervisor Updike said you may.

Supervisor West said one thing for a lot of you should know that we used to keep about a million and a half or so of the school's money each year. We had three and a half million dollars, I think roughly, in reserve. Is that the kind of low ebb at this point?

Mr. Michael Johnson said \$3.5 to \$4.0.

Supervisor West said then we had another million and a half that the schools would not request until that point. So we had that money floating to \$5.5 million dollars. We chose not to do that anymore because the School Board now is going to spend the money and there will be no million and a half in the reserve fund. That is gone; so the three and a half to four that we were showing before with that one and half million before has changed because of that. That is one difference; we had money that belonged to that school board in the reserve fund that could be called a fund by them, but no longer will that money be used in there. We didn't contact them; they contacted us and said do you want to look at refinancing some of your debts at a lower interest rate. We weren't seeking. We haven't been seeking a loan and it was shocking when they got no response to it. Okay. That does reflect on us. We have an "A" rating, an "A" rating. We are not broke.

We certainly are not loaded. The only way to increase the income of this county and increase the reserve is one of two things, you can increase the taxes and put it in the reserve or you cut your expenses and keep juggling whatever it is and keep it just like it is. And, I don't think you want to be paying taxes for something that you are not getting on and on and on and pay for it, maybe so, I'm not sure. It's not the picture that is being painted to you. Financially, yes it is a burden right now. People you are going to be receiving, I hope, in the next week a letter in the mail with your real estate bill. You can pay early. That will keep us from borrowing. And, that will build our funds back up and then it will trickle on down again and then we will go through this cycle again. I appreciate Supervisor Updike and I appreciate his keeping an eye on things. You can paint any picture the way you want to make it. You can make it look like you want to make it and you can put out the alarm and holler wolf. This Board is doing the very best that we can and we are going to continue to do the best that we know how to keep taxes low and to have new and affordable schools, and to have the things that we need in this county. We have businesses that are looking at us every day in this county and that is a good thing.

Chairman Jones said Supervisor Porter do you have something that you want to say.

Supervisor West said yes he does.

Supervisor Porter said I wish this was an issue that was as simple as everybody wants to make it. This is a very complicated issue. First and foremost we want to make this an affordable county to live it. We want to keep the taxes at a reasonable level. Yet, we want to provide services. We had Supervisor Updike earlier talking about we needed more protection in the law enforcement area; well that takes more money. We don't have enough or at least I don't think we have enough deputies. If we have one or two deputies working at night and they are in Ivor and Supervisor Updike has a break in in Newsoms those guys are no good. They can show up and take a report and record what was missing, but the one that stole it is long gone probably with no clues. I just wish that we had a solution where we could do everything that everybody wanted and keep taxes low. We are working extremely hard on a lot of projects to reduce expenses for the county. We are looking at some major activity in cooperating with Franklin on a Regional Level that will benefit both of us. That has the potential to release money which could help us some in the future. As Supervisor West said we are trying our best to bring new businesses to this county that would bring new tax revenues and we are having some success. So, we are obviously thinking about the future and where we are going. Are we in a great financial position? Probably not like some people would want. Are we in dire financial position as presented by Supervisor Updike? I don't think. I mean this is a cash flow issue. We have all of our revenues coming in basically between December and January. But, we have to spend money twelve months out of the year. When we have to spend money in August which is about the tenth or eleventh month away from when we collected the last big taxes or the last big chunk of taxes you have to make the money go through. We have a lot of big expenses coming in these months. Unfortunately these payments aren't even. We have big bond payments. We have \$16 million dollars of debt payments every year. When they come in in August it makes it hard. When we have to pay \$3 million dollars in debts in August and we haven't collected the money until November or December yes you are going to have problems. Our fund balance is more than I like it and more than we need it and we have to do things to get it higher. What we are doing is continuing along the path of looking at ways to do things better like partnering with Franklin. We look at ways to bring in businesses to increase the revenues. And, we watch the money we spend, but we don't have to be foolish we have to provide basis things. We have to provide a decent education. We have to provide decent protection of our citizens. And, those are two of the biggest expenses that we have. We have to pay our debts. I hate it, but we have to pay that \$6 million debt service each year. But, that is not the problem. That is from the past. I think we are moving in the right direction. I know that a lot of people are impatient and want things done today that we can't get done for the next three or four years. We are moving there, just watch. The trend line that I see is not just the trend line of looking at the fund balance, but a trend line of looking at economic activity and looking at how we are running the county and I think we are moving in the right direction.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Faison.

Supervisor Faison said Southampton County is undergoing through some of the same things that everybody is undergoing and that is we are not in the financial situation that we want to be in, but I believe that we are not as bad off as sometimes it appears that we are. I do believe that we are going in the right direction. Nobody wants to raise taxes. I know I don't; nobody does, but if we

are going to get revenue it is going to have to come from somewhere and taxes is one way to do it. Another way would hopefully be having industries or businesses come into the county and we are doing everything that we can to facilitate that and make it happen. But, that is expensive. In order to have it so that a company can come in you need water and sewer, you need natural gas. You need all of these things. All of those things are expensive, but no companies are coming in unless we have them because we are competing with other places that may have all of that in place. Unless we do something to make it happen here we are not competitive. If we are not competitive then we go back to the sources of revenue that we have and it ends up being taxes. So, I think we are going in the right direction, but in order to go in the right direction we accumulate debt. But it is not debt just for the sake of debt. It is in the hope that the future of the county will be better off than it is right now.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Edwards.

Supervisor Edwards said we do have a cash flow problem. I think we have been looking at ways to solve that. Twice a year tax collections may help there. I don't know how many people out there will be willing to pay their taxes twice a year. We do realize that there is a cash flow problem. I hope that within the next year or so we can solve it to the best financial situation for the county whether it is twice a year taxes or whatever else we need to do.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips said there have been a lot of good points made. We faced this last year and we need to pay the bills. I think the Board is moving in the right direction. Enviva is investing \$90 million dollars in this county. The AMAC Company is investing \$4 or \$5 million. The project peanut has been announced. This county is developing a new reputation as far as being friendly for business. That is the corner that I think we have turned. Those monies that come from taxes, machinery taxes, and real estate taxes from these companies will help in being able to keep our taxes stable and it will also help us in the rest of the business community. They will understand that we are doing what we can in these tough economic times that we are in. As Supervisor Edwards mentioned the bi-annual tax collection which we looked at earlier and we are going to look at it probably again because that in itself would solve this problem because the monies would be coming in twice a year. You don't pay twice your taxes. You pay half at one time and half again. I think this Board will look to see if the development is coming quickly enough whether we can hold off on the bi-annual tax collection. If it doesn't then I think that might be an option where we would be able to discontinue the bridge loans that are tiding us over. I think that we are heading in the right direction. I think tonight we are going to have to pass a motion again to pay the bills.

Supervisor Edwards asked if he could add one more thing.

Chairman Jones said yes sir, go right ahead.

Supervisor Edwards said we are working on the idea of seeing which is the most economically feasible. Do we keep getting the bridge loan? Is that the cheapest way to go every year or switch over to twice a year taxes? We have been working on that very hot and heavy to see which one is the most economical solution to the problem. The decision will be whichever way is the most economical feasible for the county to go.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor West.

Supervisor West said just bear with us, but not one wants to tax you for funding the reserve period. We are living closely in our means as we can. It will work. At this point I have total confidence as we just had a retreat. You will have the option of hearing what Supervisor Updike says and I respect that, but there are others who feel more optimistic. I am an optimistic person to begin with and I feel certain that we are headed in the right direction. I am ready to borrow this money because the need is there.

Chairman Jones asked if he could get a motion.

Supervisor Faison made a motion to pass the resolution.

Supervisor West seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Michael Johnson said Mr. Chairman can we get a roll call vote please.

Chairman Jones did a roll call vote with each member responding aye.

Supervisor Edwards said he would like to mention this is the same scenario as the canary in the cage in the mind and just remember that he is not singing as well as he used to.

Supervisor Updike said we cannot continue in this direction of spending money after we have approved the comprehensive plans. We have to have some self-control.

Mr. Michael Johnson said Mr. Chairman how do you vote.

Chairman Jones said yes.

Supervisor Porter said he would like to make one more comment. Supervisor West referred to something about Mr. Burchett offering to pay his taxes before the December 5th deadline. If you have the money sitting in a bank account it will reduce the amount that we have to pay to borrow the money to get to December. I intend on paying my taxes early; I hope some of you choose to do the same thing.

Chairman Jones stated at this time we can go to number eleven – Consideration of a Revised and Updated Contract with the Blackwater Regional Library.

Mr. Michael Johnson said number eleven is consideration of a revised and updated contract with the Blackwater Regional Library. Included in your agenda packages you will see an updated draft of the contract between the Blackwater Regional library and their localities including Isle of Wight County, Southampton County, Surry County, Sussex County, and the City of Franklin. The updated contract remains fundamentally the same as the current agreement dated January 17, 2007 and endorsed by all member localities. They have attempted to delete redundancies and simplify language where possible. We have with us tonight Mrs. Yvonne Hilliard-Bradley who is the executive director of the library. She has indicated that she will be glad to answer any questions that you all may have. I don't know Mrs. Yvonne Hilliard-Bradley if you have any opening comments that you would like to make.

Chairman Jones said Mrs. Yvonne Hilliard-Bradley would you come up please.

Mrs. Yvonne Hilliard-Bradley said she really didn't have any opening comments except to repeat what was said. There really wasn't any substantial change in the contract. We looked at it and realized that it referred back to some historical things that no longer exist and so we wanted to get rid of that language and those references and to simplify the contract.

Chairman Jones asked if anyone had any questions about it. He thanked Mrs. Yvonne Hilliard-Bradley.

Supervisor West said he was going to confess to reading part of it and I quit. I suppose it is house cleaning for you to have to clean it up as an updated contract and that's all it is for us. There is no substance change for us financially or substance change in any other way.

Mrs. Yvonne Hilliard-Bradley stated that it had been approved by Isle of Wight and Sussex.

Supervisor West said he would at this time be inclined to vote for the agreement change.

Chairman Jones said we have a motion.

Supervisor Porter said he admitted that he did read it, but it was hard. He stated that he saw no substantial difference in this and what we currently have.

Chairman Jones asked Supervisor Porter if he wanted to second the motion.

Supervisor Porter seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated at this time we would move to item twelve.

Mr. Michael Johnson said item number twelve is a memorandum of agreement with regard to the Hampton Roads Regional Stormwater Management Program. I was contacted recently by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission seeking our consideration in renewing the attached Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Regional Stormwater Management Program. The current MOA, which was approved by the Board in 2007 expired June 30, 2013. While Southampton County does not manage a municipal storm sewer system, certain operational and reporting requirements are nonetheless imposed by the Virginia Stormwater Management Act and the Virginia Erosion and Sedimentation Control Law. Since inception of the program, the local governments in the Hampton Roads region have worked collectively and cooperatively to develop and implement stormwater management programs that address implementation of best management practices, system maintenance, water quality testing, enforcement of program standards and public education. The revised MOA includes minor modifications which have been made to reflect updated experience, modifications to state legislative authority, and expectations about the HRPDC role under the new MS4 Permits. By sharing ideas and pooling resources, localities can reduce their costs in addressing state and federal permit requirements. The HRPDC facilitates monthly meetings of the Joint Environmental Committee where member communities coordinate efforts in water quality data enables localities to better target future program dollars to help improve both the management of the quantities of stormwater, as well as improving the quality of the stormwater entering local water bodies. The revised agreement does not change the method of funding the program. Southampton County's pro-rata share of the \$330,610 regional program in FY 2013 was \$3,207 and is a component of the annual contribution made to the Hampton Road Planning District Commission.

Chairman Jones asked if anyone had any questions on this.

Supervisor West said he had a comment. He said again this is an example of things that were mandated to us and we are now hiring staff to enforce, enact, and carry this out. This is state mandated and it is waste run off erosion control and we have to do it. We will have two people – a tech person and a full time staff member.

Mr. Michael Johnson said he was pleased to say that we just found out today that we have been approved for a grant in the current fiscal year which will help defray a large majority of the cost associated with those people and the training expenses.

Supervisor West said again there is a fee oriented with it so you have to pay a fee to get somebody to come out and put that little fence around your property if you want to dig a little hole. It's that type of thing, but again you have to hire people. It's just one of those things. We are part of the Hampton Roads Partnership.

Chairman Jones said yes we are.

Supervisor West said we are necessarily imposed upon sometimes.

Chairman Jones asked if there were any other comments.

Supervisor Porter said I think this is so we can again cooperate with our neighbors in Hampton Roads on doing certain mandated studies and not have to fund the study ourselves. If you really think about it \$3,000 a year doesn't do much of a study, but when we combine with Hampton Roads and the Hampton Roads community we get a lot of studying for our \$3,000.00 contribution.

Supervisor West said yes.

Chairman Jones asked Supervisor Phillips if he had any comments.

Supervisor Phillips said no.

Chairman Jones said well I'm going to need a motion then allowing our county administrator to execute this agreement.

Supervisor Porter made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement.

Supervisor Faison seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones stated that we would move to item number 13.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated that item number 13 deals with the Virginia Local Disability Program. House Bill 1130 in the 2012 session of the General Assembly created a new hybrid retirement program, administered by the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), that contains a defined contribution and a defined benefit component. All new state employees, local employees, and judges commencing employment on or after January 1, 2014, are required to participate in the hybrid plan. The bill further created a disability program for the local employees participating in the hybrid plan known as the Virginia Local Disability Plan (VLDP). Participation in the VLDP is automatic unless a governing body elects to opt-out and provide comparable employer paid disability coverage effective January 1, 2014. The decision to either participate or opt-out is irrevocable. In evaluating alternative, Mrs. Lynette Lowe participated in a webinar earlier this year facilitated by VRS and followed up by attending an educational seminar facilitated by VACoRP (Risk Pool sponsored by the Virginia Association of Counties). The VACoRP Supervisory Board has endorsed an opt-out solution to the Virginia Local Disability Plan (VLDP). The plan, provided by Standard Insurance Company, is a customized coverage plan that meets or exceeds the comparable plan requirements of §51.1-169 of the Code of Virginia. The following benefits and enhancements are included in the Standard Plan:

- Benefits for occupational and non-occupational disabilities
- First day coverage for catastrophic disabilities
- 80% income replacement for catastrophic disabilities
- Long Term Disability coverage begins when Short Term Disability ends
- Rehabilitation Incentive – helps claimants focus on recovery
- Reasonable Accommodation Benefit – reimburses employers for worksite modifications that help a claimant return to work
- Survivor Benefit – pays 3 times the monthly benefit
- Rate guarantee for three years (through 12/31/16)

The rate quoted by VRS, which is locked in for only 6 months, is 0.91 percent of the hybrid plan covered payroll for political subdivisions. Stand Insurance's opt-out plan locks in a 0.79 percent rate for 3 years. In order to opt-out of automatic participation in the VLDP, it is necessary for the Board to adopt the attached resolution, and further authorize me to sign a participation agreement for Long Term Disability Insurance offered by Standard Insurance through the VACoRP.

Chairman Jones asked if there were any comments on this. He said we are either going to be in or out.

Supervisor Porter said had a question. He asked how this compares to existing employees.

Mr. Michael Johnson said existing employees are unaffected. This only affects the new employees that come on after January 1, 2014.

Supervisor Porter said so only new employees now will be covered by this program, but how does this compare to the existing employees program.

Mr. Michael Johnson said he would have to check. He stated that he hadn't done a comparison to comparison. He said there was a comparison in your agenda comparing this plan versus the VRS plan, but I didn't go back and compare it to the plan of existing employees.

Supervisor Faison said so new employees coming in after January 1, 2014 are required to participate. He asked if others are getting the opportunity to participate.

Mr. Michael Johnson said yes, but they are being given that opportunity at their own costs. They can pick it up basically as supplemental coverage on top of what they have.

Supervisor Faison said if we opt into this plan do they have a choice then or does the opting into

take away their choice.

Mr. Michael Johnson asked Mrs. Lynette Lowe if she could answer that one.

Mrs. Lynette Lowe said yes. She said that her understanding is that current employees will be given one opportunity to opt into the hybrid program, but if they do they will lose their ability to retire on disability as is currently available to our current employees. Other than that if a current employee wants to continue being in the plan that they are in, but they want to buy this new insurance separately out of their own pocket it will be made available to them, but it will not cost the county anything.

Chairman Jones said does that answer your question.

Supervisor Faison said so as far as our current employees it won't force them to do anything different will it.

Mrs. Lynette Lowe said it will not force anyone to do anything different than the way the plan is laid out.

Chairman Jones asked if anyone else had any questions. He said we have got to do one or the other.

Supervisor Phillips said so we are required to offer this and pay.

Mr. Michael Johnson said correct, by statute.

Supervisor Phillips said the premium will be whatever the market is: one is offering six months and the other is offering three years.

Mr. Michael Johnson said correct.

Supervisor West said a low rate MRA.

Supervisor Phillips said this other company that was mentioned has been in the market place.

Mr. Michael Johnson said correct and there may be others in the market place at the end of that three years. You can have competitive bids from private insurers, but you can't go back to VRS.

Supervisor Edwards said it sounds like Mrs. Lynette Lowe maybe the most educated one on the subject we have here. I want to hear what her preferences would be.

Mrs. Lynette Lowe said VACoRP went out and did research with their lead team and The Standard by far offered the best rates. And, they did consider how long The Standard had been in business and the type of insurance policies that The Standard had dealt with in the past. VACoRP is fully endorsing the standard. It is the company that they proposed to all localities if they are going to opt-out and VACoRP has stated that the best thing to do is to opt-out of the VRS program. This is very similar to what we did with the Line of Duty Act. We opted out of the VRS plan and got another plan on our own through VACoRP. And, the rates have been much cheaper through VACoRP.

Supervisor West said so you are recommending the same thing that we opt out.

Mrs. Lynette Lowe said absolutely. She stated that VACoRP has our best interest at heart and they have fully investigated this.

Supervisor West said I think that is good advice.

Supervisor Porter said considering the record of VRS in terms of managing their assets and the costs that we have had to incur recently with increased pension costs I agree with that/

Chairman Jones asked if anyone else had anything.

Supervisor Phillips asked if he needed a motion.

Chairman Jones said yes sir.

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to choose to opt-out and go with the alternative.

Supervisor Edwards seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Supervisor West said you listed that, Mr. Michael Johnson, under two different headings but we did it one motion.

Mr. Michael Johnson said that's fine as long as we know we have got your direction.

Chairman Jones stated that we would go to item number 14.

Mr. Michael Johnson said we have already sort of beat this issue around, but as you all are aware we discussed it at your August 10th retreat, that Davenport & Company sought to obtain proposals to refinance our Series 2007 Water and Sewer Revenue Bond in order to potentially reduce the term, the rate, the annual debt service, or any combination thereof. This bond was last refinanced in 2007, just ahead of the market meltdown, reducing the term of the debt at the time from 27 to 20 years and saving more than \$534,000 in interest charges over the life of the loan. In addition, that refinancing freed up more than \$130,000 of water/sewer revenue over a 3 year period that were utilized to address system deficiencies.

- The principal balance of this bond as of 6/30/2013 was \$1,577,440;
- The interest rate is currently fixed at 4.12% through 2019;
- On 8/1/2019 the rate adjusts to 67% of LIBOR swap rate + 62 basis points.
- It currently has a final maturity date of June 30, 2028;
- Annual debt service on this bond is \$140,965

Refinancing proposals were due at 11:00 a.m. on August 22. Regrettably, as we mentioned there were no proposals received. I didn't get any feedback from anybody I put in here. I suspect, and that is only my suspicion, that the lack of interest in the financial marketplace is directly related to the County's declining fund balance and the associated cash flow issues we've experienced each of the past two years.

Chairman Jones stated that no action at all is needed.

Chairman Jones stated that we would go to number 15 – Miscellaneous.

Mr. Michael Johnson stated that the Virginia Association of Counties annual conference is scheduled for November 10-12 at the Omni Homestead in Bath County, Virginia. Some of the major issues likely to receive attention during the breakout sessions include: how to deal with the General Assembly on issues critical to local governments; the most recent VACo/VML fiscal survey; Virginia's Compensation Board and its legal responsibilities; building better relationships with school boards; local budgeting practices; the political landscape and its implications for local governments; Right-to-Farm Issues; and stormwater management. The general sessions will feature such personalities as Political Scientist Stephen Farnsworth and Dr. Joey Faucette author of the #1 best seller, *Work Positive in a Negative World: Redefine and Achieve Your Business Dreams*. As a side note, Supervisor Jones will be recognized for 30 years of service to the people of Southampton County this year. I did include registration materials in your agenda packages. The Board's budget includes up to \$3,000.00 collectively for Board related travel and education.

Supervisor West said he had a comment he would like to make. He said he wanted to recognize Mr. Dallas Jones for thirty years of dedicated service. That is a standard that a lot of people don't consider at all, but over the years he has seen a lot come and a lot go and a lot of things happen. It is strenuous. He even had an ulcer recently due to stress so it is wearing him down after all these years, but I would like to see him recognized at the VACorp conference at the Homestead and the budgeted amount is already set aside at \$3,000. We have set aside an opportunity for him to go if he would like to.

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Chairman Jones said thank you.

Supervisor West said for those of you that want to know when the representative goes from the district you carry your spouse and the spouse is always your costs, your meals, and your room. She pays her part of the bill. There is never an associated cost. It has always been that way. I would like to recognize Chairman Dallas Jones in this way and recommend that at this time we look at it and allow Mr. Michael Johnson to fill out the application for you to go.

Chairman Jones said thank you.

Supervisor Edwards said it sounds good.

Supervisor Phillips said have a nice time.

Chairman Jones said thank you very much. He said thank you very much for what you said Supervisor West. I appreciate it. I love what I'm doing.

Supervisor West said and you have been on the Planning Commission for how many years sir? Eighty two?

Chairman Jones said no, no. He stated that he wasn't on there for quite as long as Mr. Ira Barham was. He stated that Mr. Pete Barham had him by three or four years, so I wasn't far from the beginning of the Planning Commission. I have been here a long time. I hope to stay a little longer.

Supervisor West stated that there would be others attending as well I'm sure, but Chairman Jones would be pleased to have others go along with him and the right to farm issue is a very important issue.

Chairman Jones said there is a lot going on there, just being in the elevator and walking down the hall.

Supervisor West said oh yeah.

Chairman Jones said you find out that Southampton County is not the worst county. We have displays up there on several things that we have in the county people in our county and we were top notched with the most items that we have there especially our staff. When you look around if you see any counties without any debt he would like to find out what they are doing and I would like to move to that county tomorrow. If they don't have any debt, they ain't got nothing.

Supervisor West said Amen.

Chairman Jones asked Mr. Michael Johnson if he had anything else.

Mr. Michael Johnson said that was all he really had. He said you have got some notices in there and some correspondence. He stated that he would be glad to answer any questions you may have about those items.

Chairman Jones asked if there were any late arriving matters.

Mr. Michael Johnson said no there were none.

Chairman Jones stated the next item was the citizen's comment period. He stated that after a five minute break they would have the citizen's comment period.

Chairman Jones called the meeting back to order.

Mr. Ash Cutchin of Darden Point Road in the Jerusalem District addressed the Board. He said Supervisor Edwards was his supervisor. He said unfortunately he wasn't as optimistic about our situation as most of them seemed to be. He said he read a lot. He said he went to Alaska for two weeks in July and he read five books while he was gone. He said the other day he was rereading a book that he had read several years ago written by an American Patriot whose name you might

recognize, Thomas Payne. He wrote a book in 1776 which was 237 years ago which probably all of us had to read in high school. He knew he did. He wrote a book called *Common Sense*. Actually it is not a book; it is an essay. He wrote in the introduction to *Common Sense* these words "A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives a superficial appearance of being right. And, it makes a terminal outcry in defense of custom." end quo. Some of you might think I'm an alarmist. I know Supervisor West thinks I'm an alarmist comparing us to Detroit. I have here an article that was in the Tidewater News a few days ago and our esteem Congressman Randy Forbes kind of agrees with me. One of the things that he said was "I believe in the simple truth that we should not spend what we do not have". And, I agree with him. So whether I'm an alarmist or not as you know I am against deficit spending. Today I think we still suffer from Mr. Thomas Payne's illness in defense of custom because we keep doing the same thing over and over and over. I was at the retreat and I heard the argument that debt is not a bad thing from Supervisor Porter and I heard your justification for spending more and more as demands are made on our limited resources. And again Supervisor West told me not to compare us with Detroit. I also heard Mr. Michael Johnson state that \$7 million dollars is not an unreasonable amount of debt for us to have and of course you know I disagree with that. But like Supervisor Updike said every time you pass a budget before the ink is dry you bust it. I promise you that Supervisor Updike and I did not get together and agree to say the same thing tonight. I was surprised when he said it, but he and I agree on that. Unforeseen things will keep popping up. They always will and you have to be prepared for it. Also, I told you a few minutes ago about my former employer where they got permission to defer payments to the employee retirement system. I just read this week that the State of Virginia cooked the books in last year's budget by not listing the payments to the public employee's pension fund. So they were deferred just so the budget would look good and I think to make our government look good to. If anybody that is in the state retirement system don't be surprised that after you are retired a few years that you get a letter that says we are having to cut your retirement. He stated he knew it happened to a friend of his. He stated that he had two other quick things if you don't mind. I sat out here year after year and heard Mr. Charles Turner, the former School Superintendent, tell us how well our school kids were doing while at the same time asking for more money. I'm sure you read the reports this week in various papers about the fact that our kids didn't do very well on SOLs. I'm not going to stand up here and repeat some of these things, but in many instances our school kids are not doing as well as they should be doing. I just ask you to remember that next year because we know historically in this country that throwing more money at a poor educational system doesn't fix it. There are other things required to fix it. And there is one other thing about the bridge and I didn't think about it when Mr. Joe Lomax was up here earlier. They are going to have to close the bridge over the Nottoway River for a year and in the past I have heard people stand up here and complain about not having ambulance service to the high school. I had a dream the other night and I can't believe I dreamed this, but I thought if they have got an empty room anywhere in the school or at VDOT which is on the school side of the river that you could have an ambulance and an EMT stationed there through the school hours and you could alternative it between Courtland and Capron and they could pull alternating duty and that would solve one of the problems of having ambulance service on the school side of the river. Thank you.

Supervisor Porter said he appreciated him quoting him, but he wished he would complete what he said.

Mr. Ash Cutchin said okay I'm sorry. Please forgive.

Supervisor Porter said I said debt is not a good thing.

Mr. Ash Cutchin said you said debt is not a bad thing.

Supervisor Porter said I said debt is not a bad thing.

Mr. Ash Cutchin said yeah that's right.

Supervisor Porter said but I also said it is not a good thing; it is neither. It is just a tool. It's not the debt that is a bad thing.

Mr. Ash Cutchin said it's the debt service.

Supervisor Porter said it's what leads to the debt that can be the bad thing.

Mr. Ash Cutchin said paying \$6 million dollars a year is not a good thing. It is not a good part of debt.

Supervisor Porter said but you misquoted me when you said that.

Mr. Ash Cutchin said I didn't complete the quote. I apologize for that; it wasn't intentional. I was trying to speed things up because they already asked me how much time I was going to be up here. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Jones said I haven't bothered you yet.

Chairman Jones asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak.

Mrs. Linda Vick of Newsoms addressed the Board. She stated that she wanted to apologize first for trying to ask something of the VDOT man a while ago, but what I wanted to know is if there is going to be a guardrail put on Highway 671 because there are some dangerous spots there. One of the ladies from Newsoms has already run into that ravine there and the side of the road is very, very narrow. So she would like to ask Supervisor Updike and Chairman Jones if they would contact him and see about getting a guardrail put on parts of that highway there. But, tonight I have heard this Board spend money, borrow money, and you have not had a treasurer's report. So number one I feel like you must have zero since you are borrowing money. But, the other thing I would like to know is how much the county is owed. How much delinquent taxes do you have? How much money do you have coming in every month from delinquent taxes? I think that would be the number one report that you would want every night before you have a Board meeting. Now whether you all had it at closed session I don't know, but we don't know. I have heard that you are willing to pay a premium of close to \$15,000 to \$20,000 in interest to run this county on. I think that is a very bad, bad business practice. You are asking me and the other land owners to pay their taxes early. Well, I see two farmers sitting up here and maybe some of you own land that you are renting, well if I pay my taxes early then I have got to borrow money to pay you so that is a bad, bad business practice for me. And, I'm not willing to fall into that category as the county has done. My father in law advised my husband and me when we got married and we were farming, he said live on 2,000 pounds of peanuts per acre not 4,000 pounds. If you make 4,000 pounds put it in the bank so you will have some on those lean years. So, I am advising the county don't spend what you don't have, wait until you get it. If you get a little extra put some in the bank or pay on these debts that you owe. There has also been called to my attention and it was not brought out in this Board meeting tonight, but there are some positions in this county that are going to be reclassified and the people will receive a great increase in salary. Be fair to every employee of this county. Don't give one a \$10,000 or \$15,000 raise by reclassifying their position when we have deputies in this county making \$25,000 and some I think less risking their lives every day in this county. Be fair to everyone and be sure and think about when you are spending money you are spending money that you don't have; wait until you get it before you spend it. Stop borrowing and cut back on these expenses. That is my advice to everyone sitting on this Board. I have to do it and if you require me to pay my taxes early then I have to go out and borrow money which is going to cost me more and take away from my income to help supplement this county that is too deep in debt now.

Chairman Jones asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak.

Mr. John Burchett started approaching the podium.

Supervisor West asked Mr. John Burchett if he came prepared to make any remarks tonight.

Mr. John Burchett said he didn't have anything when he got here, but he has a few things now. The retreat was good. He stated that he appreciated the opportunity to go to it. I think we should have had it advertised. I don't know about paying to advertise it, but I would have written a letter to the paper about it. He said he didn't see anything in the paper about it and didn't hear it mentioned last month about the retreat. I think if we did we may have had one or two more people there, I don't know. I was disappointed at the retreat as you failed to address our funding. I think it is something that you prefer to wait until next Spring when everybody is screaming about money. But nobody will face the facts; we can't go on forever like we are. I heard Mr. Michael Johnson say they hired two people, one at \$25,000 and change and one at \$23,000 and change I

thought gee if I had to live off of that I would consider myself in dire straits like you said we are not in it, but some of our employees are in dire straits and it's just not fair. I don't like to pay higher taxes, but somebody has got to face the facts. Personally I just as soon raise the tax rate \$0.25 and not have anybody come in the county and build a factory. But, that's my opinion. I'm on the other extreme; I like the county the way it is. Supervisor Updike talked about enforcement and the safety of our citizens by patrols or whatever. I think last month when you all did your closed session with the Sheriff that would have been a good time to negotiate instead of putting people out on Highway 58 for speed traps to raise more money. It would be better to put them on the streets to patrol and protect our citizens. I'm not real bright, but when you have twice as many people in detention than you do in enforcement it looks like we could figure out a way to move a couple of people from detention (which we are only guarding between 50 and 100 people). Try to switch some of the resources from detention to enforcement. Then maybe we could have a couple or more night time patrols.

Supervisor West said minimum state requirements have so many guards in place.

Mr. John Burchett said I know that's always the case I can't do it. That's the first thing I hear somebody makes me do it. We can't do anything because we are stuck. We will always be in the position that we are in because we can't do anything.

Supervisor West said well the state does require it.

Mr. John Burchett said I don't know. All I know is if they are out on Highway 58 giving tickets; they are not patrolling. I'm not real smart, but I'm not stupid. You have got so many ways that you have committed yourself that you fund the budget by giving tickets. If I'm not wrong that is what you are doing. They are guaranteed a certain amount of money. That rubs me wrong to start out with because the guys are under pressure to write tickets; he's going to write them.

Supervisor Phillips said he is not going to write a ticket to somebody that is not breaking the law.

Mr. John Burchett said I don't know.

Supervisor Phillips said you keep going down further.

Mr. John Burchett said I'm telling you when you put pressure on people like in Newsoms I know that if I go over the speed limit a little bit in Newsoms that I'm going to get a ticket, but these people that are driving through who might be going anywhere that is debatable but when somebody tells you that you have got to write so many tickets then that is what they are saying. That is the way it is.

Supervisor Phillips said you want police protection. You want to pay them more. Now the whole idea was that we need more police. Supervisor Updike wants more police. We are trying to maintain the people that we paid to train stay here and work for us instead of moving off. We are the lowest paid police department in a five, six, or seven county area.

Mr. John Burchett said I understand that.

Like Supervisor Updike said it's not fair to give certain people big raises to retain them and then you won't give anybody else anything. That is not right.

Supervisor Phillips said I think you are only hearing part of it.

Mr. John Burchett said I'm hearing all of it.

Supervisor Phillips said have at it.

Mr. John Burchett said it's just like at the shipyard. We pay people who swept the floor a whole lot less than we did electricians, but the people who swept the floors have to pay the bills just like everybody else. But anyway I've got my opinion and everybody else has got theirs.

Supervisor Phillips said go right ahead.

Mr. John Burchett said unfunded mandates. I know a lot of people have friends in Richmond when it comes to the General Assembly Sessions. We have all got to try to get our representatives to address these unfunded mandates. I know every other county has to deal with it too. If they don't send the money down with it, the county should have the option of not doing it unless it is funded. The thing about the tax collection, I assume I'm going to get my bill next week or later this week.

Supervisor West said perhaps.

Mr. John Burchett said maybe, or it will be soon anyway.

Supervisor West said well around the first.

Mr. John Burchett said to him it would have been simple if they had gone ahead with twice a year. I can divide two into the amount of money I'm paying and send the bill out based on this year's rate and this year's amount for June or July 1st for next year's taxes. I can't understand why it is going to cost us a \$100,000.

Supervisor West said the treasurer is only sending these out to put them out in public early whether you pay it or not it is due by December 5th. Nothing has changed. You get one bill one time, it will be out early and those that walk in and pay it so be it. That is a good thing. If you wait until December 5th, that is your option.

Mr. John Burchett said that's not what I'm saying. What I'm saying is switching over to the twice a year collection.

Supervisor West said it is a consideration sir.

Mr. John Burchett said right, I know. But I was giving you a scenario that to me if I owe \$4,000 based on this year's rate, because we don't know if it will be the same the next year, but go ahead and send out a bill for half the taxes due for next year. Make it due July 1st for half the year, send two sets of bills, one for July 1st and one for November 25th or December 5th whichever day it is due. I can't see where it would take \$100,000 to switch over, but anyway. I wasn't available during public hearings on the overpass at Route 58 business in Courtland. I see they are still coming up with design proposals, but every time I look at that red light, and I'm serious, and stop it takes about 30 to 40 seconds for me to sit there and we are going to spend \$23 million dollars, which I think is what I heard, I'm not positive on that, to keep me from having to stop at that red light, to keep somebody coming east or west from having to stop at that red light.

Supervisor West said perhaps that is one answer, but also maybe keep people from running the red light and maybe killing another person.

Mr. John Burchett said I understand that Supervisor West, but that is not going to stop a bad driver because that lady that was killed at the overpass at the interchange in Franklin, that is a million dollar strip and that didn't help her a bit.

Supervisor West said it's just like the guardrail that Mrs. Linda Vick referred to.

Mr. John Burchett said if somebody is a bad driver or drunk or whatever or not paying attention then how about the loop when you have got two lanes of traffic going in opposite directions in that loop. There may be a wall in between them I don't know, but you have always got the opportunity for a head on collision there. What I'm saying is that there are very few accidents there now since they put that light in. Before they put that light in you go up the road three quarters of a mile and you have got the business interchange where it goes into Franklin are we going to build a loop there too. It's the same thing. We can always spend money. I don't care whether it's on the state level or local level; we need to figure out ways not to spend money. To me that is the biggest waste I've ever heard of. As far as that overpass I don't know whose idea it was. I know it has been out there ever since Mr. Mac Porter was on the Highway Commission Board. Anyway I appreciate you all listening to me rant and rave again. You all have a good evening.

Chairman Jones said thank you sir. He asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak.

Supervisor West asked if anybody has anything nice.

Mr. Jimmy Lee addressed and congratulated Chairman Dallas Jones on his thirty years of service. He stated that he has done a good job. He said good evening to everyone.

Supervisor West said welcome home.

Mr. Jimmy Lee said it's good to be here. There is no place like Southampton County.

Mr. Jimmy Lee said congratulations Chairman Jones on thirty years of dedicated service to the county. I think that deserves applause. Nobody out here would question your sincerity or love for the county. We appreciate your thirty years of service.

Chairman Jones thanked Mr. Jimmy Lee.

Mr. Jimmy Lee said debt is lingering on everybody's mind and we are all concerned about that. I agree it is a complicated issue. There are not any simple solutions, but out in the private sector if our credit card has been cut off we just can't spend any money. And, when your bank statement is zero you just don't write any checks. I don't think it is unreasonable to ask our government to be fiscally responsible as we have to be on the private end. As far as our problems tonight we can't go back and solve some of the issues that are already in place, but we can go back and learn from them and try not to make the same mistakes twice. I think we have spent some money in the past when there was public descent and maybe the previous Board should have listened a little closer to the public and that is water over the bridge. But I don't think...

Supervisor Phillips said its water under the bridge.

Mr. Jimmy Lee said okay.

Supervisor Phillips said you are talking about a flood.

Mr. Jimmy Lee said he has messed up my train of thought. I don't think it is fair to come back and asked us to pay more taxes to remedy problems that we didn't cause. I feel like somehow or another we are going to have to live within our means and it is going to be painful. And I heard Mr. Michael Johnson, whom I respect just like I do all of you on the Board, mention tonight that we got a grant to pay for this. Well that doesn't solve our problem. The grant is taxpayer funded too. Everything that we are talking about comes from the private sector, whether it is grant money, federal states, state taxes, unfunded mandates, We just got the changes this year. This thing we are talking about at the Homestead would be mandates. And I hope if it is gentlemen that you will insist that down here we are getting real concerned about the state telling us we have got to spend money, but they don't provide any money to spend. I think that is a problem that we need to address. I don't feel like we have an income problem; we have a spending problem and when we run out of money we need to stop spending.

Chairman Jones asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak before we close.

Supervisor Updike said instead of encouraging additional spending I'm encouraging setting priorities. He said that word may be distasteful to people, but every day he gets up he has to set priorities. He has to decide what field he is going to pull weeds out of. What I'm saying is that these safety issues and things like this and financial issues require us to set priorities. Some things can be set aside while the more important issues can be pulled forward and answered to. We tend to forget to set priorities in our dealings.

Chairman Jones asked if anyone else had anything before I close.

Mr. Jimmy Lee asked if that highway proposal as far as the design a done deal or is that still up for discussion.

Chairman Jones said they have changed it a couple of times already.

Supervisor West said yes as late as today.

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Supervisor Phillips said he stopped by the office Monday afternoon and the contractor is ready to be elected within a matter of weeks or days so if there are any comments now is the time to make them. I mean they had a complete set of drawings right there in the VDOT office, but the diagram that Mr. Michael Johnson showed tonight is a much better representation where you get the full sense of it. It's like a road out in the middle of the woods.

Mr. Jimmy Lee said as far as the design he was wondering if that was the most economical thing that we can come up with as far as all of that overpass. When you build an overpass you are not only building a bridge, but you are building an embankment that costs a lot of money. I wonder if the same thing could be done in the interest of public safety by doing some things like I have seen in other locations where you have rumble strips. I know the Highway Department doesn't like to use rumble strips, but believe me when you run over rumble strips and the car vibrates and makes a noise it wakes you up and you see that you have lights ahead. I would think a rumble strip would be something that you would try first and then look at an on grade design versus a bridge and an embankment overpass design which would be a whole lot more expensive. I'm just speaking out of concern of the tax payer's interest not trying to cut safety or not devaluing life in any kind of way. But, I think that plan tonight could be improved on right much.

Supervisor Phillips said if he may comment in his talking with Mr. Joe Lomax and Mr. Jerry Kee their comment was that they ran an offer in the paper to have a public hearing and they had zero response so they were moving the process forward and they have done the drawings. They are at the point where they are ready to put this up for bids. So, I'm not sure what we can do at this point. But again within one week they have already made some changes so if there are any other comments now is the time to make them.

Mr. Ash Cutchin, of the audience, as what the county's cost share was in this project.

Mr. Michael Johnson said none.

Chairman Jones said this is VDOT's doing. We don't have anything to do with it.

Supervisor Edwards said by the time you get a public hearing the die is probably already casts.

Supervisor Phillips said right.

Supervisor Edwards said we learned that from the Courtland Bridge. They showed five different ways we could do it. They already knew that number three was the way that we were going to do it.

Chairman Jones asked if there was anything else to come before us.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Dallas O. Jones, Chairman

Michael W. Johnson, Clerk