

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 September 28, 2015 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, Deputy County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer
Beth Lewis, Community Development Deputy Director
Julien W. Johnson, Jr. Public Utilities Director
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney
Amanda N. Smith, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS ABSENT

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Supervisor West 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), Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community; and
- 2) In accordance with Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7), Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the public body regarding specific legal matters associated with removal of construction and demolition debris from the former H.P. Beale Packing Plant.

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

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

Supervisor West made a motion to go into closed session.

Supervisor Edwards seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones called the meeting back to order. At this time we will have our certification resolution.

Supervisor West states yes sir and 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 Faison seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones states we are now back in open session. We did not do anything that was not on our agenda and we did not take any action. At this time we will have citizen comment, but before you come up; Mr. Bill Vick we had you do something for the county. If you would come up and let us know what you did.

Mr. Bill Vick addressed the board. In June the board was offered the opportunity to present a Christmas ornament for the Governor's Christmas tree this year. Michael Johnson called me and asked if I would consider doing that. Tonight I have something I would like to present to you for your approval tonight. This ornament is made of Baltic Burch from Finland and I hope you will find it to be satisfactory.

Mr. Bill Vick presented the ornament to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Bill Vick states I certainly want to thank you for the opportunity to do this. I would like to say I have 100 more of them but I don't. I hope it meets the board's approval and I certainly thank you for the opportunity to do this.

Supervisor West states it is quite labor intensive.

Chairman Jones states it is beautiful.

Mr. Bill Vick states thank you sir.

Chairman Jones states and we thank you.

Supervisor West states thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright Mr. Cutchin. You can come on up.

Mr. Ash Cutchin addressed the board. Good evening and thank you for letting the public speak. My name is Ash Cutchin and I live on Darden Point Road near Sedley. I was out of town in July and sick in August and it's good to know I was missed; thank you. I was wondering if that meant I could have six minutes tonight instead of three. I am just joking. I would like to make a few brief comments about our local history in the modern day American disease known as political

correctness. As I drove home from Suffolk the other day, I went past their new school on U.S. 58 near Holland. Then, I went past Longstreet Lane. A few minutes later I was in Franklin driving along Lee Street. Those two street names remind me of the controversy of the name of the Washington NFL team which we have always known as Redskins, and also about the Confederate monuments in Richmond. Also, it brings to mind the current controversy about our local road called Blackhead Signpost Road. It has been said more than once, but first I believe by the famous philosopher and poet George Santayana and I quote, “those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it” end quote. I asked how much of Nat Turner’s rebellion are we willing to repeat if we forget or chose to ignore what actually happened within a few miles of where I stand. Now, I have no skin in the game and it matters little to me by what name any of our roads are called. This name seems offensive to some of our citizens who would like to pretend certain events never happened and rewrite history to satisfy their personal dissatisfaction of being reminded of the Nat Turner rebellion and some of its effects. In a position such as that reminds me of the fact that the terrorist group we call Isis over in Iraq and Syria is not only beheading Christians and others who disagree with their ideology but they are also destroying priceless statues, temples, and other architectural gems thousands of years old. Where does it end? James Longstreet was one of Lee’s favorite Generals. Do we dare suggest to Suffolk that they change those street names? I have also suggested to Mr. Snyder of the Redskins that he keep the name Redskins but change the logo from a Native American figure to a potato, which some are called redskin. The problem is George Will as written and I quote “we have a new national passion for moral and historical hygiene and determination to scrub away remembrances of unpleasant things such as the name Oklahoma which by the way is a compound of two Indian words that mean red people, end quote. Do we really want to start changing our state names such as Oklahoma? What about cities. Our own nation’s capital of Redskin’s fame is named after George Washington who owned slaves. Would we change the name of our nation’s capital? What about religion? Think about all of the cities named after saints; St. Louis, St. Paul, San Diego, San Antonio, San Francisco. Again, Mr. Will says if we change those names we can all listen to Tony Bennett sing I love my heart in Ferocious city. Also, regarding religion, what about the cross. I know crucifixion offends me and others I am sure. Thousands of people including Jesus has suffered the horrible death by being crucified but it happened; it’s history. Should we remove crosses from our churches because we dislike crucifixion? What about personal attacks? Because I am overweight, my doctor classifies me as obese; a term which I find offensive that I am trying to live with. Should I change doctors or ask him to quit medicine? Perhaps I should remind him that my mother called me husky and pleasingly plump, and my sister called me ox. I didn’t like it but I endured it. I am almost finished. When concentration camps were liberated General Eisenhower ordered army photographers to take lots of pictures, because someday someone would say that the holocaust never happened. Today the Iranians are saying just that and the Holocaust Museum is one of the premier tourist attractions in Washington D.C. Now, I am no fan of slavery. It was horrible and it is a blight on our nation, but it happened and we cannot undo it; just as we cannot undo Nat Turner’s rebellion. I have often said that I bare no ill feelings against Nat Turner. If I had been a slave I am sure I would have rebelled and maybe would have murdered those who enslaved me. Now, I guess it is possible to negotiate a settlement to satisfy those who are offended and remove the name Blackhead and call the road simply Signpost Road or you could extend Barrow Road across the intersection and run it on to Newsoms; or you could name it Nat Turner road or better yet, a suggestion I read in the Tidewater News last week written by Law Professor Alfred Brophy, keep the name as it is and install a historical sign that explains exactly what happen and why it happened so it will never happen again. I suggested many times that we go way too far in trying to rewrite history and put our collective heads in the sand so that we cannot see those parts of history in which we dislike. Political correctness is becoming a mockery and a joke and I say enough. Let our history speak for itself. Thank you for listening.

Chairman Jones states thank you sir. Anyone else?

Mr. John Burchett addressed the board. My name is John Burchett. I enjoyed that thank you. I have a couple of things. I am very pleased and I am hoping I read that public notice correctly that there may be a cell tower built near Sebrell. Not only do we have a ball park but we now will be able to have decent cell phone service. There is a Planning Commission hearing the beginning of next month I believe. If a mono-tower means a cellphone tower I am very thankful. Now, I have been delaying saying this because other things have come up but I have heard Barry, Mr. Jones, and Bruce in other venues talk about our need to grow. I did a little research; I am not antibusiness, but Virginia Beach real estate tax rate is .93 cents only because they have the beach

and all of the tax revenue they get from tourist. Norfolk is \$1.15. Chesapeake is over a dollar. Suffolk is \$1.03 and that is their lowest and they have several different tax zones. This is the older district; the others are up \$1.39. Isle of Wight is .85 cents and Franklin I believe is .95 cents. The point is growth does not lower tax rates. The only tax rate that is lower than us is the personal property tax. I think we have the highest in the state but what we need to do is try not to make any of the huge mistakes we have made in the past again. The garbage deal we made 18 years ago. The sewer system we put in which was hugely overdone. We are getting to the point we can almost see the light at the end of the tunnel with the additional money that will be coming in from the gas line if it is ever built and the reduction in the garbage fee. We suffered the pain. People have made sacrifices and mainly our children have made sacrifices. Older people and poor people paying this garbage disposal fee; but if we can refrain from making huge mistakes we will be alright. I hope we are almost at the end of the tax increases to pay for all of the mistakes we made. I forgot to add the Turner Tract in there. That was a black hole we poured millions into; in a swamp. But anyways, I just want to say I wish you all would think about it. It makes me cringe anytime you say we need to grow to decrease our tax rate. It does not happen. Growth demands more building. I don't know of any city in Eastern Virginia that is lowering their tax rate because of development. Newport News has one of the biggest companies in Virginia; Newport News Shipbuilding and their tax rate went up this year. I don't know if they ever went down. Just think about it. The only thing growth does is make real estate people, lawyers, land developers, and some landowners rich. It doesn't do anything for me or Bruce. I don't know about Dr. Edwards; I don't know what he owns. These people who come here; growth brings people and they demand services. Already, Virginia Beach and other cities want to use Southampton as a recreation place. Along the pipeline, make the pipeline a bicycle trail. Now, we are demanding more security and somebody has to pay for that. Anyway, just think about it when you say you want to grow to decrease taxes. It doesn't work. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states anyone else?

Mr. John Ricks addressed the board. Mr. Chairman and members of the board I am John Ricks. I am glad to be here again today to talk to you. I am delighted that the gentlemen stood up and spoke his peace on the subject that I have come to talk about for the last two times making this the third time. He had a lot of humor in what he was saying but majority of the people that I know don't find any humor in that. I am not going to stand here and quote any poets but I am going to tell you just like it is just like the last time. The gentleman doesn't know me from Adam, but I was insulted that I was called a terrorist. I served in the Marine Corp for 21 years and proudly still have that uniform hanging in my closet so I choose my words carefully and I am not a terrorist. No matter what anybody thinks I am not a terrorist. I am not an Iranian. My blood is boiling a little bit right now. He made a very good point about the Holocaust and he made a point I wanted to make and I have made it before. He said it; I don't have a problem with Blackhead Signpost Road sign people just like he said about the Holocaust. I have been to the Holocaust museum in D.C. but where is it at? It is in a museum and that is where that sign should be. I am not trying to advocate the change... we are not trying to advocate changing the name to Nat Turner Road. We are not advocating that. We have never said what we advocated to change it to; we just said that name needed to change. That sign was put up there, like I said before, to remind black people, to remind the slaves to stay in their place. This is 2015 and we don't need to stay in our place anymore and we don't need to be reminded of that. Now, I know a lot of people disagree with me, but there are a lot of people that agree with me. Now, I am not going to talk about the Redskin thing but I am going to talk about Blackhead Signpost Road and Hanging Tree Road. Now, he talked about Longstreet Road and Lee; I served in the military and I think the first time I came here I said to you one of my greatest joy from studying military history and being in the military because I had to study it and walk the battlefields many times at Chancellor's Field, Fredericksburg, Petersburg and one of my greatest generals, Mr. Stonewall Jackson. So, I don't care and I made a point that the monument across the street, let it stand there but the point I came to make when I talked about that monument was when the flags was flying around it. That is what we talked about. So, yes he made some valid points and I am not trying to degrade the gentleman about what he talked about because he has the same rights that everyone else in here has a right to. But anything that degrades one person degrades us all. Where does it stop? Where does it end? We don't need to continue going down this road talking about history. History belongs in a museum. Let's be realistic with that. It belongs in a museum. When we sit here and say it teaches our younger people about where we came from; like I said before name the road Dred Scott if you want to teach black kids about somebody; name the road Martin Luther King and again I am not suggesting that we name it after

anybody. You can name it ABC Road, but I am just bouncing back off what the gentleman said. We will continually talk about this and we are going to get to the point where we will need to make some decisions on this thing because we are going to continue to be here. We are going to continue to talk about this thing. This is not going to go away. This is the only way things happen is through action; by coming to talk with our representatives. You represent everyone here in Southampton County and you need to listen to everyone here in Southampton County. That is what I came to say to you tonight. That is what we came to say to you tonight. We are getting bigger and we want you to listen. This is not an argument; we want you to listen. As I told you before this is not a white thing, this is not a black thing, this is a right thing. That is what this is; this is a right thing. So do the right thing. Thank you for your time sir.

Chairman Jones states thank you.

Ms. Betty Bailey addressed the board. I thank you for the chance to stand before you tonight. I want you to know that I don't like it. I want to change it. When is it going to stop? History is not going to change no matter what you change.

Chairman Jones states excuse me can you state your name.

Ms. Betty Bailey states Betty Bailey; I am sorry. History is not going to change no matter what we change. Leave it alone; let it be history; let it be in the past. Let it go. The names for the County roads were done by a group of people; men, women, black, and white. They had a few names that were requested to be changed but on that list was not Blackhead Signpost Road, Greenhead Road, and Hanging Tree Road where petitioners have been going up and down the road getting people to sign them. What is next? You don't like the way the war ended so you want to change the names of roads. What about the statue across the road that he mentioned. Will that be asked to be removed because I don't like it? What about biblical names, church roads; Bryants Church Road, Mount Horeb Road, and Burdette Church Road. I don't like churches. Are we going to change that also? When he asked these people to sign his petition was he totally honest with these people. Did he tell them what it was going to cost them and how it was going to affect them. Have you thought about if you change the name then you are going to have to change your address for everything else? My thing is starting with the rescue squad. We have a rescue squad that is great here in Courtland. Sometimes they are out on calls and sometimes they are out on two different calls. They may be out on a third call and have to call other squads in to help them out. When these people come are they going to be able to find the road that they are looking for? If you change the name then the county will have to change the maps and other things. All of these departments have giant maps on the walls that they go by. When you go to find John's place, Jack's place, or George's place that use to be something else; the new people that come in with EMT that help out when the other ones are out sick and stuff; Are they going to be able to find this? Will it be you there waiting for the rescue squad that can't find your road. The first few minutes as we know are the most critical. Would you want a man sitting there waiting to save your life but they don't know where you are? They change the name and now they can't find the road. I know the people at the town not only worrying about it but it is something to be concerned about. The members of the fire department are the same way. They have people that come in. Do you remember Hancock fire? All of our guys were out at the fire. They had other companies around like Suffolk that was around to cover the squad here in Courtland for our protection. What if they can't find the name? What if they can't find the road; just because I changed it because I didn't like it? Is your house going to burn down? Is your mother going to die waiting for the rescue squad? What is going to happen then? Who is going to pay for these new maps that will have to be printed because you can't click a button on a computer and change everything? Also, a lot of people are not computer literate. They don't know what is going on. They don't know how to operate computers. It is not a fault to them; it is a fault to our age. The trouble goes on. Who does the person have to notify his change of address to? You call your bank or go to your bank and change your address, your credit cards, your car loans, your personal loans, your house loan, your light company, your phone company, your cable or satellite company; all of these people would have to be notified and that is my business to do it not somebody else that wanted to change it. You have to have all of your stocks, bonds, and investments changed. What about doctors; family doctor, eye doctor, foot doctor; what if you have cancer and have a half a dozen of cancer doctors. You will have to change your address with all of those; your dentist, the hospital, your insurances such as your health, your life, your house, your car, your boat. Your retirement people; you have to notify them. Did anybody that signed their name on that paper have any idea that all of this will have to fall on them. The

county has to be notified. DMV has to be notified; you will need a new license and your tags will need changing. Your work address has to be changed. People that are living off of social security will that get mixed up in the mail because they don't know your address; they can't find your street. If you have direct deposit will it make it there on time? You have to notify social security. How many of these older people realize half of these things that have to be done. You have monthly checks that come from the county. You have food stamps. Do you want them delivered on time or you want to be sitting there waiting for your check to be delivered and not have any food for the kids in the house. What about your lawyer. You will have to go to your lawyer and have things changed there. Your wills and papers that are filed at the courthouse will have to be refiled. Who is supposed to pay for those? Nobody else is; and the big one. What about your medications that you order through the mail. You have to be sure they can find you because you now have a new address. You will have to notify your friends of your new address. Your family and even your Christmas card list will have to be changed. You will have to change your address at church. If you are a Ruritan, a Mason, or a Scout all of that will have to be changed. This is just part of the list that goes on. None of the less I would like to say leave the street names the way they are. Don't upset them, don't move them, and don't make other people bear the burden just because you don't like something. Thank you very much.

Chairman Jones states anyone else?

Mr. Larry Jones addressed the board. Good evening board.

Chairman Jones states good evening.

Mr. Larry Jones states I thank you for the time and I didn't come up here with a prepared message. My name is Larry Jones and I am basically a lifelong citizen of the county. Sitting here listening to all of the other citizens talk; the lady spoke of change and we all know what happened to dinosaurs who couldn't adapt to change. So, change is good and we have to be able to adjust to change. This is the twenty first century. As far as the road name change I think it is good. Every time I ride by the road that says Blackhead Signpost Road and Hanging Tree Road and Captain John Road, these names are disgraceful and they are hurtful and I think it is time for those names to be changed. Out of decency there are a lot of good people in this county and I think we need to address that because if it offends one person I think it needs to be changed. That is what I came to say. I have lived in Courtland for 35 years. I have lived in the county all of my life basically. My daughter is 29, my son is 25 and when they were growing up I explained to them what the meaning of those roads was. I have two grandkids now and I don't think I should have to explain to them the meaning behind those roads. It is hurtful and I think it is time for it to change.

Supervisor West states may I ask a question please?

Chairman Jones states go ahead.

Supervisor West states does a cross on the top of my church offend you sir? Would you require that the cross be taken off?

Mr. Larry Jones states no,no.

Supervisor West states you said if it offends one person it needs to be taken down. I am just making a point.

Mr. Larry Jones states I will say this. What about a group of people in this county that it offends. It's offensive and I believe in my heart as a taxpayer I think that it needs to go. That is my right. As far as the sign is concerned, most of the vehicles today have gps and it shouldn't be any issues in finding locations and addresses.

Chairman Jones states thank you very much. Anyone else?

Mr. Vanless Worrell addressed the board. Good afternoon Chairman and the board my name is Vanless Worrell from Newsoms. I listened to both sides of this discussion. I gave it some thought and I came up with one thing about a change that should not be. We right now do not have prayer in school. To the best of my knowledge it was less than five people that got the Supreme Court to

rule you cannot pray in school anymore. So, all these little details about what it is going to cost people to make this change; modernization, push a button, type in this and it is done. It is not a great cost. Don't use that as an excuse. It can be done because it has been done. Stop hurting people. Why should anyone; Jews, Blacks have to live with some of the things that were done to us in the past. Thank you. If anyone has any questions I will be glad to take them.

Chairman Jones states anyone else? There was no response and the public comment period was closed.

Chairman Jones states now we will go to the approval of the minutes. Did anyone have any problems with the minutes? If not, the minutes will stand approved. Okay, next item is highway matters, Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Michael Johnson states I don't have any Mr. Chairman. I will be glad to take any request that you all have.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor West.

Supervisor West states I would like an update on the bridge closing on Route 616 where the under pending structure has deteriorated and the red light there is holding traffic and at this point nothing has occurred. I would like a timetable update. I have had some calls in the community about the red light being there controlling the traffic but nothing has happened. How long before something happens?

Mr. Michael Johnson states I will get you a more current update but the last update I had indicated about six months. Part of the reason the light is already in operation and you don't see anything going on, they want to avoid two tractor trailers meeting on that bridge right now based on some of the structural concerns. So, they want to limit the traffic to one lane until they can address the structural deficiencies.

Supervisor West states well it just appears that nothing is happening at this point. Thank you.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Faison.

Supervisor Faison nodded no.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Edwards.

Supervisor Edwards states I don't have anything new sir.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Porter.

Supervisor Porter states are we still on schedule for early completion of the Courtland Bridge?

Mr. Michael Johnson states the last date I heard was October 31, 2015 which is about a month ahead of schedule.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Updike.

Supervisor Updike states as you know the Newsoms Drainage Project didn't get accepted. I would like to request that VDOT do a little bit of work to reduce the standing water. I know we can't do the entire project but we sure can improve the conditions that are there now; clean out the ditches so the water will have somewhere to go. We were hoping to receive the funds for this project but I don't know how long we can continue to exist without VDOT doing some improvements. I know they can't do it all but we need to get something moving in that area.

Chairman Jones states anything else Mr. Updike.

Supervisor Updike states no.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states I would like Mr. Johnson to forward to VDOT my thanks for the trimming they have been doing and ask them to continue doing that. They have a new machine that they have been using to do some trimming in the Capron District and it has been a great help. The tree limbs were actually hitting the car antennas on the side of the road so tell them thank you.

Mr. Michael Johnson states sure.

Chairman Jones states we will go to number seven, reports; Sheriff's Office, Animal Control, Litter Control, Treasurer's Report Mr. Britt.

Mr. David Britt addressed the board. Good evening. I am going to give you an update as to where we are at with our delinquencies and where we are going with that. As I reported last month we have done 817 tax liens. As of Friday we have had collections on 479 of those liens in the amount of \$218,850. We have had 167 out of 817 returned as people not working where we thought they were working. They either have been terminated or they left their job. We also have done two more distress warrants which most people call booting of vehicles. We were able to collect \$6,000 from that. Also, with the DMV stops, as I reported earlier this year we have put in place 1,100 DMV stops. As of right we have released 407 of those which means those accounts has been collected. Our totals on Solid Waste; at this time last year the amount owed on 2012 was \$54,512; 2013 was \$183,924. At this point in time, this year, we still have \$46,555 outstanding on 2012, \$119,388 outstanding on 2013 and \$228,005 outstanding on 2014. As far as real estate, one year ago we had \$504,000 outstanding which is a 99.6 % collection rate. This year we have \$493,000 still outstanding and that is a 99.65% collection rate. As far as personal property, one year ago we had \$626,000 outstanding which is a 97.5% collection rate. This year we have \$622,000 which is a 97.79% collection rate. Does anyone have any questions?

Chairman Jones states does anyone have any questions for Mr. Britt?

Supervisor Porter states I have a question. On some of these regarding the landfill fee you have multiple year records.

Mr. David Britt states yes sir.

Supervisor Porter states are there any people that are in all three years?

Mr. David Britt states yes sir.

Supervisor Porter states of that \$47,000 you stated is that number also included in the following year?

Mr. David Britt states if they owed it for 2012 it is in that figure for 2012. If they owed it for 2013 it is in that figure for 2013, but they could be in all three.

Supervisor Porter states so the same people owe for three years.

Mr. David Britt states yes sir.

Supervisor Porter states okay.

Mr. David Britt states and we have collected on some of those like that using tax liens.

Supervisor Porter states I would suspect that probably everybody that owes for 2012 also owes you for 2013 and 2014.

Mr. David Britt states most likely unless they have left the county. Any other questions?

Chairman Jones states anybody else?

Mr. David Britt states one other thing; we do have a tax sale coming up on the 27th. We have three parcels that will be in that sale. It will be conducted in Suffolk at the hotel that used to be the Holiday Inn on Route 460. That will be at 6:00 p.m. on the 27th.

Mr. Michael Johnson states it's a Motel 6.

Mr. David Britt states okay I didn't know what they had changed it to.

Chairman Jones states okay; thank you.

Mr. David Britt states thank you.

Chairman Jones states Building Permits; Cooperative Extension; Solid Waste Quantities; Personnel Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Michael Johnson states there is one item to report Mr. Chairman. We had one employee hired this month; Lyndsey Paschal in the Sheriff's Office effective September 14th at an annual salary of \$29,283.

Chairman Jones states Shared Services Committee, Mr. West.

Supervisor West states we haven't done very much; the Shared Service Committee which is a committee that meet with Franklin and Southampton to look at ways that are cost effective in joint services. With that being said, we do meet Wednesday night and I do anticipate something greater will come out at that time. We are looking at some things that could be beneficial to both areas and it would save in personnel; give better service for Franklin and Southampton through joint services; Mr. Porter.

Supervisor Porter states there are two specifics. One is we are working with Franklin and Isle of Wight with what we are going to do post 2018 SPSA. Where we stand right now is we are waiting on the SPSA group to get their information finalized. They are out with request for proposals from different parties that would provide services to them after 2018. The information that we are receiving is the numbers that they are getting are very favorable. We should be getting some information on that very soon. They have recently revised a proposed user agreement which they will be getting out to us and we will see that sometime in the near future. It will be out for public comment and they are looking at October, November, or December timeframe to deal with that and finalize it in January. At that time we will work with Isle of Wight and Franklin to see if we can find something that is less costly. We expect at a minimum our tipping fee will be cut in half; at a minimum. It will go from \$125 right now down to \$60.00 which is fairly average nationwide. We are optimistic that we can get lower than that. That is what we are looking at. We will get the best deal we can for the county whether we go with SPSA, work with Franklin and Isle of Wight, or do something on our own. Chances are we will find a better deal working with someone else. Also, as you know we are working on a utility study with Franklin to try and minimize the subsidies we provide to our Courtland Wastewater Plant. It is my understanding that the report that has been done by the consultants has been delivered.

Mr. Michael Johnson states to the management team and the management team is reviewing it at this point.

Supervisor Porter states we should have some information on that pretty soon.

Chairman Jones states alright, thank you. Those are our reports. Does anyone have any questions? Okay we will go to number eight, financial matters; monthly bills. We need to pay the bills.

Supervisor West states the bills have been reviewed and properly audited. At this time I make a motion that we authorize payment of the monthly bills.

Supervisor Edwards seconded the motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$588,682.44 to be paid by check numbers 143735 through 144138. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones states we will go to number nine, public hearing.

Mr. Michael Johnson states Mr. Chairman our public hearing tonight is held pursuant to Section 15.2-2272 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, to consider an ordinance vacating a portion of that certain plat of "SEDLEY VA. SURROUNDINGS, ADDITIONS & COUNTY ROADS,"

surveyed and platted by H.F. Watts, C.E., S.S. & S. R.R., July 1907 and recorded in Plat Book 1 & 2, Page 5 in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. The aforesaid ordinance vacates only that 16' x 48' section of alley between lots 1 and 7, Block 96, pursuant to the provisions of § 15.2-2272 (2) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended. Approval and recordation of the aforementioned ordinance shall operate to destroy the force and effect of that part of the plat so vacated, and shall vest fee simple title to the centerline of the 16' alley to the owner of abutting lots free and clear of any rights of the public. The affected property is identified as Tax Parcel 47A2-1-95A, owned by Gwendolyn Young and Lakita Hicks and is located at 30336 Oak Avenue, Sedley, VA, on the southeastern corner of Second Street (Rt. 1002) and Oak Avenue (Rt. 1010). This property is in the Jerusalem Voting and Magisterial Districts. The notice of public hearing was published in the Tidewater News on September 6, and September 13, 2015 as required by law. After conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Supervisors will consider the comments offered this evening and will proceed to adopt, amend or defer action on the proposed ordinance. This particular matter was considered by the Planning Commission at an earlier meeting and Mrs. Lewis may have a recommendation for you this evening.

Mrs. Beth Lewis addressed the board. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on this and made a unanimous recommendation of approval. This tract is lot 1 on one side of the alley and lot 7 on the other side of the alley. Ms. Young and Ms. Hicks have been offered the opportunity for a replacement home. They have a nonfunctioning septic system and through a grant from the state they were offered an opportunity for a new home. However, the only appropriate place for a drain field was on lot 7 which is separated from this lot by the alley. So, the health department denied that application for a new septic system because they want it all on the same lot. So, unless this alley was vacated they would not approve their original request. No one spoke at the Planning Commission except Ms. Hicks. I received no calls, questions, or comments from anyone except the property owner across the street that was concerned it had something to do with her property but it doesn't. This alley has been used as the owner's backyard for as long as they have lived there. If you have any questions I will be glad to answer them.

Chairman Jones states any questions for Mrs. Lewis? Alright, thank you. This is a public hearing. Is there anyone for or against this application?

Mr. Ash Cutchin addressed the board. Sir, I recommend that you accept the Planning Commission's recommendation and you approve it if it helps these people get a septic system. I see no reason anyone should object. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states anyone else?

There was no response and the public hearing was closed.

Chairman Jones states what do you say board?

Supervisor Edwards states I make a motion that we go with the Planning Commission's recommendation and adopt the attached ordinance.

Supervisor West second the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones states let's go to number ten, discussion related to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Mr. Michael Johnson states Mr. Chairman the objective of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is to reduce the impact of flooding on private and public structures by providing affordable insurance for property owners and by adoption and enforcement of floodplain management regulations by participating communities. Participation in the NFIP is voluntary - however, when a community chooses to join the NFIP, it must adopt and enforce minimum floodplain management standards established by the federal government. In return, the federal government makes flood insurance available for almost every building and its contents within the community. Southampton County has participated in the NFIP since 1979. With significant portions of the county subject to occasional flooding, continued participation in this program is critical for many Southampton County property owners. In developing local floodplain management ordinances, participating communities must at least meet the minimum regulatory standards in Title 44 of the

Code of Federal Regulation (44 CFR) and administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). NFIP standards and policies are reviewed periodically and revised when appropriate. When administrative changes are made or when flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs) are updated, community floodplain management ordinances also must be revised and updated accordingly. We have recently been made aware of certain regulatory changes by FEMA that are not currently reflected in our local ordinance. Because of this, we'll soon need to adopt a new ordinance to satisfy the requirements of the NFIP. Since this ordinance is part of our local zoning regulations, it will need to be reviewed and evaluated by the Planning Commission before it can be considered and adopted by the Board. It's my understanding that the Planning Commission has already discussed this and intends to soon schedule a public hearing to receive feedback on the suggested model ordinance. In addition, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation has recently expressed some concern regarding NFIP integration and coordination between the county and its incorporated towns. Participation in the NFIP by the towns is also voluntary, subject to approval by their respective town councils. Their councils are responsible for adopting and administering the floodplain management regulations within their respective corporate limits. But because Southampton County enforces the Uniform Statewide Building Code (which is the enforcement piece of the NFIP) for each of the towns, there is a potential disconnect. DCR has recommended that the County consider entering into Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the incorporated towns that participate in the NFIP to enhance coordination of efforts. Mr. Charley Banks, the state's NFIP Coordinator, has recently met with representatives of the Towns of Boykins, Branchville and Ivor to discuss the NFIP. It's my understanding that he'll soon be meeting with representatives of Courtland as well. The Town(s) of Capron and Newsoms do not currently participate in the NFIP since they have no developable areas with greater than a 0.2% chance of flooding in any given year (a 500-year event). The Town(s) of Ivor and Branchville also have no developable areas with greater than a 0.2% chance of flooding in any given year, but have chosen to participate in the NFIP anyway. The Towns of Boykins and Courtland have substantial portions of their corporate limits in flood prone areas. At this time, no action is required by the Board. Once the Planning Commission has transmitted its recommendation for a revised floodplain management ordinance, we'll schedule the required public hearing and place the matter on a future agenda for your consideration. We'll also provide copies of MOUs for your consideration in the future along with requests from the respective towns that wish to continue their participation in the NFIP. Attached with this agenda item is a draft of the ordinance as well as the draft memorandums of understanding with the towns just for your reading pleasure at this point to get you familiar with those things.

Chairman Jones states alright, any questions on this? Alright let's go to number eleven, designation of surplus property.

Mr. Michael Johnson states included with your agenda packages you will find a resolution declaring certain property owned by the county as surplus and ordering it to be sold at Blythe Auctioneer's Fall Consignment Auction. The list includes one pick-up truck from the Department of Public Works which is a 2001 GMC with 273,000 miles on it and one Jeep from the Sheriff's Office that has 140,000 miles with a roof leak and alternator problems. The Jeep was previously donated to the county by Dominion Virginia Power.

Chairman Jones states alright gentlemen. What do you want to do? It is surplus property.

Supervisor Porter made a motion to adopt the attached resolution.

Supervisor West seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones states let's go to number twelve, Capital Projects Financing.

Mr. Michael Johnson states as you're aware we have three capital projects planned for FY 2016 – Courthouse security improvements, construction of a new kitchen/dining hall at the County jail farm, and repair and painting of water tanks in Newsoms, Branchville and the Southampton Business Park. We had hoped to have the funding commitment for these projects in time for your consideration tonight, but we are still working through the final details and it'll likely be a couple more weeks before we have the commitment. Additionally, because of the nature and structure of the financing, it will require a public hearing in advance of closing. So it is our intent to schedule that public hearing for your October 26th regular session. Attached for your reference is a

summary of each project along with the anticipated sources and uses of funds. We're anticipating a 3.35% rate, which is slightly higher than projected last month, and we included some updated preliminary debt service projections for you as well. The aggregate net debt service for all 3 projects is projected at approximately \$156,300 per year for three years. Your FY 2016 budget includes approximately \$140,000 for debt service for the projects. That will be sufficient for this year since only one semiannual payment will be due before June 30, 2016, but your FY 2017 budget will need to be adjusted accordingly.

Chairman Jones states are there any questions on this?

Supervisor Updike states I must have been sleep or something because I didn't think we had made a firm decision on the courthouse; the kind of glass we are going to use and other things. How can we approve expenditures until we come up with a final plan on the courthouse?

Mr. Michael Johnson states you are not actually approving the expenditures. What you are approving is the financing. So, certainly if there was any money left over it would be used to pay down the debt that you incurred to move forward with the project. That would set the ceiling for the project regardless.

Supervisor Edwards states weren't they going to get back with us with a report on that.

Mr. Michael Johnson states yes. The architect has met with the Sheriff, the Clerk of Court, and the Commonwealth's Attorney this month. He talked with them about the glass and looking at the alternatives now. He is getting that drawn up and we will present back to you the summary of bids once the project is bid; at that point we will ask for your authorization to proceed. But, this lines up the financing for the project.

Supervisor West states there a difference between the \$140,000 and \$156,300; is that a result of the interest rate or what anticipated an increase in interest rate?

Mr. Michael Johnson states it is part the interest rate and the other part is we have added in some for that bullet proof glass and some of the other things that the architect talked to you about last month. We plugged in numbers for those.

Chairman Jones states any other questions? Okay, let's go to number thirteen, miscellaneous.

Mr. Michael Johnson states item A Mr. Chairman, you see attached for your reference a copy of correspondence from VACo regarding the voting credentials for the 2015 Annual Business Meeting to be held on November 10, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in Bath County, Virginia. It is necessary for the Board to authorize a delegate and alternate delegate to cast its votes. Chairman Jones and Mrs. Lowe have made tentative plans to attend. It would be necessary to appoint Chairman Jones as the voting delegate and Mrs. Lowe as the alternative delegate to cast your votes at that meeting.

Chairman Jones states alright gentlemen I need a motion for that.

Supervisor Edwards made a motion to appoint Chairman Jones as the voting delegate and Mrs. Lowe as the alternative delegate.

Supervisor Porter seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones states let's go to item B.

Mr. Michael Johnson states item B is a project update with regards to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. You see a copy of their monthly project update attached with your agenda material. I think there is also a hard copy at your places tonight. Their application was filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission earlier this month. They are hopeful to receive approval on that within about twelve months and then move forward with construction thereafter.

Chairman Jones states okay, any questions? Alright, item C.

Mr. Michael Johnson states item C is a notice from Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia will

have Medicare Benefits counselors holding information and assistance events in various locations throughout Western Tidewater in October to assist Medicare-eligible individuals navigate the Medicare and Medicare Part D. Assistance will be available for those who are currently enrolled and may be eligible for the Part D Low-Income Subsidy "Extra Help" benefit. These sessions are free and open to the public. You have a copy of that schedule and I know there is at least one scheduled for the Walter Cecil Rawls library here in Courtland and I think two additional workshops scheduled at the Ruth Camp Campbell Library in Franklin.

Chairman Jones states okay, item D.

Mr. Michael Johnson states item D is a number of notices attached for your information.

Chairman Jones states if there are no questions on this, late arriving matters.

Mr. Michael Johnson states no sir.

Chairman Jones states does any board member have anything they want to bring before the board?

Supervisor Updike states I would like to request to Chairman Jones to write to the speakers of tonight's discussion before this gets out of hand as a racial issue. It is not a racial issue. There are procedures that you have to follow. You have to apply and go before the Planning Commission; pay your fees, and then the Planning Commissioner will have a discussion and make a recommendation to this board. You can't take the open session comments and do anything about it unless you go through the proper procedure. Let's not develop this into a racial issue or anything; go through the proper procedure and let it come before the board so we can vote on it. I would like the Chairman to send him a letter and anyone else the proper procedure so we can take some action. We can't keep beating a dead horse to death.

Chairman Jones states so you are suggesting we send a letter to Mr. Ricks?

Supervisor Updike states right and anyone else who would like a copy of it.

Supervisor Edwards states no one has asked the Planning Commission to look at it.

Supervisor West states well it sounds like Mr. Ricks or someone has made contact along the route.

Mr. Michael Johnson states I have not talked with Mr. Ricks.

Supervisor West states but it sounded like that to me. Have people been contacted along this route because it requires a certain percentage of people to sign a petition requesting to change the name. This is a minimum requirement before it can go anywhere. We cannot arbitrarily make that decision.

Chairman Jones states actually the people who live on the road would have to get together and petition the Planning Commission to change the name of the road. It has to be a 2/3 majority in order to do it. Is that right Mr. Johnson?

Mr. Michael Johnson states I can read it to you and it is right out of the Southampton County Code. It says the Board of Supervisors shall establish street names during their review and approval of subdivision plats. Subdivision plats with street names that are not required to be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors shall be administered by the agent. Any request to change the names of existing streets shall be submitted via petition containing signatures of a majority of landowners of said street along with a review fee of \$500 paid to the agent who shall forward the request to the Planning Commission for public hearing and review. The Board of Supervisors shall hold a public hearing after receiving a recommendation from the Planning Commission on the request.

Chairman Jones states so that is the procedure that he has to go through or whoever.

Ms. Betty Bailey states did he say the ones on the streets had to do it?

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Mr. Michael Johnson states I said the petition must contain signatures of a majority of landowners of said street.

Supervisor West states whoever is circulating the petition has to get a majority.

Mr. Ash Cutchin states and it doesn't make a difference if you own one acre or 500 acres.

Chairman Jones states it doesn't matter if you own one lot or a farm. It has to be done by the landowners on that road. The board itself cannot just say we are going to change the name of that road.

Mr. Ash Cutchin states so does that mean those of us that don't live on that road don't have a say?

Supervisor Edwards states you have a say at the public hearing at the Planning Commission meeting and the public hearing here.

Supervisor Porter states everyone has a voice at a public hearing but I think what we are trying to communicate is we have to follow procedure to do it. We can't just say we agree with you and we want to change the name of the road. We have to go through the process and the process begins with the petition.

Supervisor West states no matter if he comes back...

Supervisor Porter states he can talk about it for five years but we can't do anything about it until he files the petition.

Chairman Jones states and that is any road in the county anywhere. Is there anything else?

Mr. Michael Johnson states so what is the action with that?

Supervisor West states at minimum question Mr. Ricks and see if he initiated it and let him know he has to pay the \$500 fee.

Mr. Richard Railey states he is aware of that. He has mentioned in his comments that \$500 fee several times.

Supervisor Updike states so I think we should write him a note stating the procedure he needs to go through.

Mr. John Burchett states what does that \$500 pay for?

Supervisor Porter states it has to pay for the advertising for the public hearing.

Mr. John Burchett states but what I am saying is you have Blackhead Signpost Road and you have Hanging Tree Road. Would there have to be a separate petition and fee for each one?

Chairman Jones states yes sir there will have to be an application and fee for each one. They are not the same street.

Mr. Larry Jones states did you say there had to be 2/3 vote?

Mr. Michael Johnson states no; a majority of the landowners.

Chairman Jones states it has to be the owners of the property. Alright, anything else to come before us? If not, I need a motion to adjourn.

Supervisor Edwards made a motion to adjourn.

Supervisor West seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no further business for tonight the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Dallas O. Jones, Chairman

Michael W. Johnson, Clerk

September 28, 2015

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