

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 October 23, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

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

SUPERVISORS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator (Clerk)
Lynette C. Lowe, Deputy County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney
Frances Duke, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS ABSENT

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order and had the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Supervisor west moved that the Board enter into a closed meeting in accordance with provisions set out in the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the following purposes:

- 1) In accordance with Section 2.2-3711 (A) (5), Discussion with the staff from FSEDI concerning prospective businesses or industries or the expansion of existing businesses or industries 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) (3) and (29), Discussion or consideration of the sale price of approximately ten (10) acres or publicly held real property in the Turner Tract Industrial Park, including the terms and scope of a public contract for certain infrastructure site improvements thereon, discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

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

Supervisor West states I motion to move to closed session.

Following a second by Supervisor Edwards, the Board approved the motion to go into closed meeting with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

BOARD ENTERS INTO CLOSED MEETING AT 6:05 P.M.

BOARD RETURNS TO OPEN SESSION AT 7:00 P.M.

Chairman Jones states it is 7:00 p.m. and I'll call this October 23, 2017 board meeting back to order, at this time, we will have the invocation by Mr. Ash Cutchin.

Ash Cutchin states thank you Mr. Chairman, fellow Board members, I consider this an honor. Let us pray. Gracious heavenly father, accept our thanks and praise for all that you do for us. We are grateful for your many gifts, for this wonderful country, this beautiful Commonwealth, and for this special County. We know that you look with favor upon us here in Southampton County. Thank you for a bountiful harvest. At the same time, we have needs and requests. Lord, we ask that you pour out your grace upon the victims of the horrible storms this hurricane season. And the victims and families of the horrendous tragedy in Las Vegas. And the destructive fires in California. And a special blessing upon the needy citizens of Southampton County. Grant us the ability and compassion to help meet their needs. Lord we thank you for our leaders. We also ask that you grant all leaders and elected officials of this Country and especially the leaders of Southampton County, the knowledge, wisdom, courage, humility, and strength to make decisions for all the citizens, equitably and fairly. These things we ask, humbly in the name of your son, our savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Chairman Jones states thank you Mr. Cutchin. Is there anyone that would like to volunteer for next month's prayer? Alright, Mr. Burchett. We will put you down for that. Thank you very much. John Burchett. If anyone else would like to do it, any month, we will be glad to let any citizen that wants to pray to have the opportunity. We cannot do it anymore. It is necessary at this time that we have a certification resolution.

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.

Chairman Jones asks any to second that?

Supervisor Faison states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote that we adopt the certification resolution.

The Board approved the Certification Resolution with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Chairman Jones states at this time Mrs. Jarratt will explain the action that was taken in our closed meeting.

Amanda Jarratt states thank you Chairman Jones. As was explained before entering the closed meeting, part of the discussion this evening was the performance agreement of what had previously been referred to as Project Recovery, this is the company that is interested in acquiring ten acres in the Southampton Commerce and Logistics Park, more commonly known as the Turner tract, in the remaining property you have, across from the Enviva development. And so what I would like to do again is walk you through the performance agreement and answer any questions and then act on it this evening. As we discussed, the company is interested in acquiring ten acres. They are committing to invest 9.5 million dollars in Southampton County with an average wage the first few years of \$42,500 per year and the average wage for other class of positions \$40,160 per year and this is before benefits or overtime. The approved performance agreement that you all approved; there are commitments by the county and by the company. We will walk through those as well. The company, again, is committed to the 9.5 million dollars in acquiring the ten acre tract. As a reminder to you all and everyone in the audience, the company that applied for the CUP several months ago, was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors as well. They have fulfilled all the requirements for the proper zoning. Again, they are committing to hire 25 employees at the average wage that I have just described. The county's commitments to the company; we will be applying for funds in the Virginia Department of Transportation's economic development access road to pay for the road opening up to the site and then the water and sewer extensions will be split 50/50 with the company and the county. There are no incentives being offered to the company. Typically we would offer a 50% rebate on machinery or tool staff. Typically we would offer discounts on permit fees and those types of things. We have none of that on the table for this project. It is simply the county fulfilling their obligations provided access to the site for the company to develop their project. The remedies for failure to perform are like the other performance agreements that we have approved in the past, so they if they do not meet their investment and employment requirements within the 36 month time frame, like we have outlined with every other project that we have approved, then they would have an obligation to repay any investments to the county based on the percentage of the investment that they have met. Then, Article 5, the final section is how to correspond with each other, in the event that correspondence is required. Again, the conditional use permit was the first step in having this project come to fruition. Approval of the performance agreement is the second step. And then the final item that you will consider next month is the actual purchase and sale agreement, which would allow us to close on the property. After you all act, then Mike will call a meeting of the industrial authority for their group. Still happy to answer any questions at this time.

Chairman Jones states any member have any questions? Thank you Mrs. Jarratt. Board members I need a motion.

Supervisor Porter states so moved. I move that we approve the performance agreement.

Supervisor West states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried

Chairman Jones states it is now citizen comment period. There will be no discussion on number 10. At number 10, if you want to talk about it, then you need to do it at the citizen comment period. And when the stop light goes off on red, then that means stop.

October 23, 2017

Ash Cutchin states I am going to talk fast. Good evening Mr. Chairman. My name is Ash Cutchin and I live on Darden Point Rd and Dr. Edwards is my Supervisor. I would like to say a few brief words about the golf course, Country Club issue. I have some 25 years experience with real property values. Both in California in sales and in Virginia as an appraiser. Last month we were told that if we lose the Country Club that the property values would go down. To research that point, I pulled up GIS on my computer and I counted 27 residences that abut the golf course. 8 on Country Club Road, 18 on Homestead. Rather than calculate the real estate assessed values of all 27, I decided to do a random sampling of 8, as well as some vacant lots. I came to some startling conclusions; all of which I do not have time to enumerate in three minutes. Briefly, my research concluded that there are three vacant lots on Homestead, which back up to the golf course and assessed to \$5,000 each. I assume they will not percolate for a septic system. Two adjoining lots are assessed at \$60,000 together or \$30,000 each. Off course, interior, within the Scottswood subdivision, the average assessed value for three vacant lots is \$25,000 per lot, vacant. Also the average value of an improved lot, which are those that contain dwellings, in the interior of Scottswood is \$44,625 as with vacant, compared with an improved lots on Homestead at \$49,375. All 16 were chosen at random. The lots backing up to the golf course were assessed for approximately \$4,750 more than the interior lots that are vacant. Looking now at improved properties, those with dwelling and assorted outbuildings, which is where the tax fund is generated, my research and math produced the following results. 8 improved properties adjoining the golf course were selected at random, assessed for \$1,874,000; with an average assessed value of \$234,250 and a median value of \$236,500. And using this average figure, I extrapolated from 8 to all 27, and I arrived at the figure of \$6,324,750, is my estimate of the total assessed value of all 27 homes which abut the golf course. That is an average tax revenue to the county, using our .85 cents per 100, of \$53,760. An average of \$1,991 per property. Now to turn to off course improved properties, I came up with the interior of \$240,000, or 1.9 million. For consistency in using average, I extrapolated that and came up with using the tax rate of \$55,000 in revenue for the off course lots. Which is approximately \$1,587 dollars more than the golf course lots. I do not think we would lose any money by losing the golf course. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

John Burchett states my name is John Burchett. I appreciate the opportunity to speak. You know how I feel about giving money to the golf course. We are trying to reward a business that is failing because of poor management. That is not what we are about. We are about what Mrs. Jarratt was talking about. Give incentives to companies, yes, that want to bring good paying jobs to the county. Not to back up a company that is failing because of mismanagement. Poor loans, makes me want to say that they have done wrong. Barry, I understand you. Barry is fighting for something he loves. He is fighting for as this as hard as I fight for hunting. And I understand him. Randolph, I do not understand you because Glenn Updike says he only found 1 in 100 in his area that was for it. I do not doubt Glenn. He is an honest man in my opinion and so are you, but I cannot understand your support at the last meeting. Mr. Faison, I do not understand you at all either. You and I have been like this, on education. We have said no to the schools to give these people money, Mr. Faison. I do not know how we can do it. It hurts me. It hurts me here that we will say no to our children and yes to people who mismanaged their money. Ronnie, I understand you. You want somebody else to pay, so you can play golf. If you need help, I will be glad to donate a little bit to help you pay your greens fees. Dr. Edwards, I appreciate your support last meeting. And Bruce. It is a great county and a great nation and I thank God for it. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Florence Reynolds states Chairman Jones and members of the Board, my name is Florence Reynolds. I live in Zuni, VA. I must say that the news of the intent for this Board to give \$30,000 to the Franklin Golf Club took me by total surprise. I called Mr. West and found out that it was indeed true. Frankly I am still reeling from the outrageous consideration to fund a private business from public funds. I am not even sure that this is legal. I do not believe that the citizens of this county, who have had to bear the burden of another tax raise this year and, oh, let's not forget the burden of the garbage fee, no I cannot believe you would do this to 99%, so that the 1% can go golfing. I heard what you are saying about the lack of recreation in the county, but this is not anything new. Some of us have been asking for recreation for 30 years, even in the years when the county had millions in surplus. But we did not get it because you said that there was no money. I hate to say this, but it seems that when the lowly masses ask, then there is not any money, but

when the elite want to play golf, then there is money. Yes, I said elite. Who do you see playing golf? People who have money. If you are going to do something about the recreation situation in this county, then it seems to be that you should be looking at areas that all of our citizens can take advantage of, young and old, black and white, able bodied and the disabled. If you are going to use public money, then the entire public ought to be able to use whatever facility you provide. My question to you is, what happens next year. If they are in the same predicament next year, do you throw away another \$30,000, while our school budget is cut to the bare bone? How about another private business asking for a bailout. Will you do that also? Lastly, we all know that when businesses need money, they usually go to a financial institution. Well let me tell you the county treasury is not a financial institution. My advice to the golf club is to try the bank. Perhaps they could ask for those who desire to use the golf club to consider to contribute to a fund to save the club. Let's see now. If 30 people would contribute \$1,000, then that would take care of that bill. If you use it, then you ought to be willing to give \$1,000. To the Board members, just remember, this is public money, raised for public use. There are some with me tonight who are in support of this. Will you stand please? I think you see that.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Lynn Rabil states I did not stand. Mr. Chairman, members of the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Johnson, and other esteemed leaders of Southampton County, my name is Lynn Rabil. I am a business tax payer in Southampton County. Once again I come before you feeling like a lone wolf howling in the wind, or a fish swimming upstream. I am interested in presenting a different perspective on why you should vote for Cypress Cove Country Club. I am a member. My membership dollars have subsidized a lot of enjoyment for many Southampton County residents over the years. That is not the point of what I want to say right now. Just three weeks ago, I interviewed a man for a higher level position. He was a recruit for my company. Part of that discussion was the amenities in Southampton County, and what could draw him to come and work for me in Sedley. He was a golfer and that did have some impact on the decision he would make, ultimately. Just last week, the Bronco Federal Credit Union held a golf outing that raised \$30,000 for CHKD. It used to be for Make a Wish, but they diverted their money. Other organizations that have either used the golf course or the house facilities to either raise money that goes back into our community include: Southampton High School Athletics, Franklin High School Athletics, the YMCA, the Chamber of Commerce, PDCCC, Rawls Museum of Arts, Southampton Academy, the Garden Club, Christian's Woman Club, and many other businesses as well as government entities have held meetings at those facilities at no charge to the citizens, only the bear of the members. I have seen nonmembers through the years and many of them are sitting in here that have enjoyed playing bridge, mahjong, or poker, at no charge to anybody, other than the members. I do not think Southampton County or the City of Franklin, that any of the schools have paid to practice at Cypress Cove Country Club, whether they are members or not. That has been going on since I was in high school. First Tee is a national program that exposes disadvantaged or underprivileged youth to golf because it teaches life lessons to students that may not have an opportunity because it is a difficult sport to afford. That is the purpose of this subsidy, in my opinion. It is to give more opportunity for more people to go out and enjoy this type of activity. Cypress Cove Country Club provided a safe recreational opportunities for children during summer months when school is out and parents are working. I would drop my children off at the tennis courts and go on my merry way to my job and there are many people that do that. My time is up.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Jason Fowler states good evening. My name is Jason Fowler. I live in Courtland and I am going to change the subject a little bit to the courthouse. As we approach the vote to spend more money on single projects, since the construction of the wastewater treatment plant, I would like to state what a no vote means in regards to the courthouse. A no vote simply means the courthouse will not be moved from the current location, period. No money has to be spent. No renovations have to take place as a result of a no vote. According to Virginia Code, another vote to remove the courthouse from the current location cannot take place for another ten years. This does not mean that the county does not have an obligation to provide a safe and secure courthouse for the judges, staff, and public. However, a no vote should not mean that we move forward with the proposed 26 million dollar renovation as presented. If the vote is no, then the county should carefully study the options to renovate the existing courthouse. It was stated that the reduced scope option was rejected by the current Judges. The Judges provided a list of concerns. Did anyone try to address these concerns? It should be noted that a solution was agreed to by a previous Judge at a cost of

less than one million dollars. There are a number of issues that escalate the cost of renovation of a no vote. The most costly issue is a combination of the City of Franklin and the renovated court building. If the county is trying to find the least costly option, why would we include expansion with the City of Franklin? This option requires more square footage and thus more money. Another issue is the addition of a third courtroom. It is unclear whether this is a result of combining with Franklin courts or necessary for current operation. They are currently operating with two courtrooms. There is no indication of an increase in population for the county, so it should be safe to assume that they could operate under the status quo. As designed, the proposed secure parking is a costly item. Parking should be designed so there is no need for a flood wall. The combination can be provided in the existing lot with a security wall separating the judges and the public. Each of these issues as well as others should be investigated further before the renovation plan is set in stone. Talking with Mr. Johnson and the Board, I often get the vague statement that the judges have complete control. Yes, while it true that the court will have final say, the county has to provide different options that address all their concerns that is least costly to the county. Several counties have been court ordered to update their facilities. These counties have worked with the Judges to provide an economical solution. Halifax and Charlotte Counties are the most recent. In Charlotte County a new courthouse was constructed for approximately 14 million dollars. Halifax County has worked with the Commonwealth over a 6 year period with a plan to renovate the courthouse. During this process the county considered a new court building, but decided that is was too expensive and it was not in the best interest of the citizens. The final plan is to include over 50,000 square feet in renovation and is estimated to cost 17 million dollars. Since we are past the question of the referendum, if the vote is no, then we will have lost the option to build new and have to look at other options. If this is the case I hope the county lets the legislative process happen.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Fowler, your time is up. Thank you, anyone else?

Joe Vick states I had not planned on getting up here. I am Joe Vick from Capron. I would like to talk about number 11, since Mr. Fowler started it out. I would like, when you get to that, for Mr. Johnson to explain to you the difference between the voter education efforts between Franklin and Southampton. About our e-mails that we had sent last week. Also, I would like to urge you to let Mr. Railey write a description for the voters to put at the polling places. That is all I would like to say about that tonight. The other thing I would like to do is to talk to you, Mr. Chairman, directly. I have been coming here for eleven years sir, more or less. There were four different people sitting in these seats when I first started coming on a regular basis. And you were awfully proud for all those years and you let people stand up here and say what they wanted to say and talk as much as they wanted to talk. Because Lord knows that you gentlemen get to sit up here month after month and tell us exactly what you think. Exactly what is on your mind. But somehow you let a couple of your member here talk you into this ridiculous game show device you have sitting back here because they did not like to hear Glenn and John rattle on up here at you all. And you did not like what they were saying. Sometimes John says something right every now and then and I appreciate it. So I am urging you to get rid of this this, if you do not mind because it kind of makes us look silly and ridiculous and that is all I have to say about that.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Carolyn Modlin states before you start timing me, every business meeting that I have ever been to that has public comment uses some kind of timer or device. My name is Carolyn Modlin and I live in Boykins. I am also on the school board. I represent the Boykins area. There are two issues that are coming up on your highway matters that are of very very serious concerns as citizens, as members of the school board, and as many of us as parents or grandparents. If you ride down 58 highway and you get to Capron, you see blinking lights reminding you to slow down. Well, that same traffic passes through 58 by the high school and the middle school and we do not have blinking lights there. And it is only by the grace of God that we have not had a tragedy for a student getting hurt or killed turning into the high school. And yes, the highway department tried to make turn lanes to make it so you had to go up further to turn, but we still need blinking lights there. The Sherriff's department can only provide us with so much attention in the mornings and afternoons. We are asking for blinking lights. The other place where we have a real problem is at Riverdale Elementary School. There is a very short turn in to this elementary school. And no matter how much predicting you do when you build a new school, you do not realize how far traffic is going to back up because you cannot accurately predict how many parents are going to pull in and drop their child or children off at the school. And some mornings you can go by 58

and you can actually see cars backed up on to the highway. It is a safety issue. We are all very concerned. School board meeting after school board meeting, after sitting through the last Board of Supervisors meeting, I suggested that people contact their supervisors because I heard someone say, and it was Chairman Jones, does anyone have any highway matters, and I heard Supervisor Phillips speak up and say something about highway matters. So I suggested at the next board meeting that we contact our supervisors. You were contacted. The issue is now in your lap. We have a safety concern. Please listen carefully.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Yvonne Rose states good evening. My name is Yvonne Rose and I am a 40 year resident of Southampton County and a tax payer. I have stood before you earlier this year and I represented the chapter of the AKA sorority. I have written to you all more recent representing the Southampton County Democratic Party. Tonight I am just representing me. I am not speaking for anyone else. What I would like to say is, I would like to oppose giving \$30,000 to the Country Club. And I do so for all of the reasons you have heard before. But I would also like to admonish just as I stood here earlier representing AKA, and just as I wrote to you all representing the Southampton County Democratic Party of Virginia, you all represent the people who elected you. Once you are elected you should not be doing what you want to do based on whatever you decide. You should be in touch with your constituents and should represent the community that you have been chosen for. I would like for you to go back and talk to the people in your districts and represent them when you decide to give their hard earned paid \$30,000 to a private club. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Warren Simmons states gentlemen of the Board, my name is Warren Simmons and I live at 27511 Southampton Parkway, Courtland, VA. Just suppose gentlemen, if we wake up on November 8th and the citizens of Southampton County and the City of Franklin have voted yes on the courthouse referendum. And suppose we build a courthouse for \$26.5 million dollars on Camp Parkway. Suppose a couple of years later we build a new jail and Sherriff's office for another 40 or 50 million dollars on the same site. And suppose the site on Camp Parkway was not selected because it was a better location or a better price or created a better economic choice, but rather solely chosen because it was your closest situated to the Franklin City limits. And suppose the City of Franklin cannot sustain their growing debt. Or revokes their city charter to become a town in Southampton County once again. And suppose the movement between shared services has been a slow objective toward the reuniting of both the county and the city. And suppose Franklin seeks to expand their town limits to include our Riverdale Elementary School, the High Street Methodist Church, the proposed warehouse complex, and the new courthouse site. And suppose you, the Board of Supervisors now with additional members from Franklin, once again, show a lack of grit and vision, allow this to happen to Southampton County. And just suppose the citizens of Southampton County wake up to learn that the former City of Franklin is now the County seat of Southampton and our debt is now \$100 million plus. If this comes true, then what I have heard all my life is also true. And that is, the people of Franklin are smarter than the country folks in Southampton.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Earva Lee Jones Sumblin states good evening, Mr. Jones and to your distinguished Board. I am so happy to be here tonight. I am excited. The reason I am excited is because I did as Mr. Ash Cutchin did and did some research. But my research is more of an innovative type research. I took a piggy back on the Chamber of Commerce and their motto of how they recruit members. I was saying what if we, the Southampton County Board would get with the Board at the Country Club and see what motto can we come up with at the Country Club to get in new members. It is definitely a position or an issue of supply and demand. They have got the demand. People want to go play golf, but they need folks to pay some money. So what if then, you contact that the powers that be there and look at offering memberships a little less than \$750 per year to the businesses that stretch across Southampton, Franklin, and the adjacent areas. For an example, if we did 75% of the current members of the Chamber of Commerce, we could bring in, easily, a \$200 membership, one time, \$47,000. That would resolve the \$30,000 shortfall that they have. So I think we need to be innovative and bring a new prospective to the table that would give a win, win for them and a win, win for those who need the Country Club. And I think it would do

October 23, 2017

something innovative to the school systems and the parties that use this facility to offset whatever their endeavors are. So I would like to propose to the Board to get together with the powers that be and look at increasing membership and lowering the membership dues, perhaps staggering it the first year, \$200. The next year etc. and etc. And gentlemen, I am excited because I know that would work. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you, Mrs. Sumblin. Can you please give your name for the record?

Earva Lee Jones Sumblin states oh, I am sorry. I did not want to get beeped. My name is Earva Lee Jones Sumblin. I live in the county. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you.

Cindy Moore states good evening. My name is Cindy Moore and I live in Southampton County. I actually live on the golf course. I keep hearing everyone talk about the elite members of the golf course. Well that would not be me. I am a member and I do play out there. I watch everyone that plays by my backyard. We have policemen, teachers, VDOT workers, rescue squad, state employees, and a lot of retired people, just like us. Just ordinary folk. So, I really do not want to hear any more about the elite members. I see families that are coming by playing. Fathers and sons. Fathers and daughters. Husbands, wives, and their children. There really are not that many places this day and time that families can go out and enjoy spending quality time together. Mrs. Rabil mentioned a lot of the organizations that have tournaments out there to raise funds for worthy causes. One that Mrs. Rabil forgot to mention is, where I work, which is the Department of Social Services. We had our 5th annual child abuse prevention tournament to raise funds for child abuse prevention. This has been a huge asset to have these tournaments. If the club were not here, we would not be able to do this. Another thing, if the club was not here, I think we all know and I appreciate all of the research some people have done on all of the finances, but I think we all know that if the club were closed that the tax deficit of the county would suffer, from all of the real estate assessments going down, my house included. Not just the houses on Homestead Lane, but all of Scottswood, Country Club Road, it is a lot more than anyone has been talking about that it would affect. All of these assessments would go down and of course the tax revenue would decrease, not just on the real estate of the homes, but also the Country Club. I also heard someone talking about the Board getting with the Board of the club. A month ago that is what Mr. Phillips suggested. We are a month later, so I think it is time to have the vote tonight. I thank you all very much.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Deborah Goodwyn states good afternoon Board members. My name is Deborah Goodwyn and I live Branchville, Virginia. Mr. Faison is my representative. I am here to oppose giving \$30,000 to the Country Club. My reason is simple. I do not believe we should use county funds to bail out private businesses. I believe that people should pay a fee to play or to utilize services. That way everybody wins. Those who use the facilities, pay to use the facilities. We use our county funds to support those activities, such as education, that would benefit the majority of the county residents. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Gary Cross states Mr. Chairman, Gary Cross of Black Creek. Excuse my appearance, but I have just come out of the fields to come and see you all this evening. As president of the Southampton Farm Bureau, I am often charged with, I do not want to call it overseeing, but I will call it keeping watch on what is going on in the county. While we at the Farm Bureau office cannot have a resolution for every line item in your budget, we are charge with reminding you to use our money responsibly and to the best knowledge for what the tax is supposed to be used for. And \$30,000 to a private industry is not that. It does not fit that bill. That is what I am here to say this evening. We could not poll 2,000 Farm Bureau members and find out how they felt about the subject. At our last meeting, last month, it was pretty unanimous that no one was in favor of this and nobody that they knew or had talked to was in favor of this. I ask you on behalf of Farm Bureau to take a second look at this and see what else we can do. I hope each of you are able to use a Facebook page. I took a poll on my Facebook page and I got a lot of no's. Some were polite and some were not so polite, but only one person said something that has come up here tonight, and that was economic development. I think when a business locates here that they are looking for a highway,

workforce, education, and I think that a 60-year old golf course that is in debt \$200,000 is the last thing that they want to hear about, much less using my tax dollars to help support an industry like that. Children activities? You can find children in Sedley, Ivor, Newsoms, and Capron. There are plenty of places that you can contribute money to add to the children. Hundreds of children every year play ball. And they are looking and need money all the time for their organizations. If you want to find out what families do together, go to a hunt club on a Saturday morning and look how many children show up to hunt with their parents. Property values, I am appalled that you would even bring that up. Property value. You are going to prop up \$30,000 for property values around the golf course, so what are we going to do Mr. Cook and Mr. Faison for all them people out there around Newsoms and Boykins when those property values are going to fall due to a solar panel farm. I am surprised that you all even bring property values up, that is what some people used to say last year. That it is not going to affect them at all. Now I want to know, you discriminate against the people who do not live in or around the golf course who might not live in a nicer home as what you would see around the golf course. Those people are being discriminated against and I see how you are going to prop up the property values in the other parts of the county. Thank you very much.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Bobby Dunlow states Bobby Dunlow from Sedley. I guess you all know that baseball and softball are my things. \$30,000 could do a lot of help in this county. And not all in recreation, but you are talking recreation. On any Friday or Sunday from April until the end of July, you can see 500 to 600 kids playing baseball or softball somewhere in this county. Every one of these communities have worked hard to build a complex and maintain it. And it is debt free. The county has never been asked for any money for this recreational facility. I do not think now is the time for us to be giving our money away to a recreational facility, regardless. So you are talking a total of \$60,000. \$60,000 will not run a golf course for a year. So how much is it going to be next year when they get in the hole again next year? How much is going to be to bail it out again. I just ask that you all take a very serious look. I think that you see here tonight what the majority of the people are thinking.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

William Gillette states Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, Mr. Johnson, my name is William Gillette and I live at 17375 Bellfield Road. I can appreciate the pros and cons of the issue regarding the Country Club and the \$30,000. It seems to me that a squeeze is coming to the surface on a sport that a lot of people dearly love. I am not a golfer. I think it is a great sport. I enjoy watching it. My son is a golfer. However, my sport, there was a squeeze on it. I hunt. Last year we started a nonprofit. I have heard of a lot of nonprofits using the Country Club. We started our nonprofit last year and Sussex County joined our endeavors. And we generated to the fire departments in Southampton County \$15,000, to the fire departments in Sussex County \$15,000. And an additional \$20,000 in other areas to help pay for equipment and that was just in one year. We recently met with the Southampton Association of Fireman and Rescue and agreed to write one check this year on behalf of the efforts in Southampton County, but I spoke to the gentlemen in Sussex this morning and they are going to cut a check, rather than cut a check to each fire department, they are going to write it to the Association and run it through our county government. I have yet to discuss that with Mr. Johnson, but I certainly intend to. We recently had a meeting on this and we have got some \$40,000. If my math is right, that is about \$100,000 or close to it in two years. I think we need some innovative thinking. I think we need some people with some out of the box ideas. And I do not think that the nonprofits would mind at all, some user fees when they are using the facilities, if they are generating \$30,000. We did that and we paid a fee to use a county facility. In turn, left the money right here, where it should be spent and used. This was done by members of the sports world that I enjoy, which is hunting. I enjoy fishing too, but right now, fishing is not in too much trouble. At any rate, I think that we need some new ideas and we need to reexamine the position of the Country Club and come up with a plan to get up out of the hole and I do not think that there are folks out there that are using this would mind at all a helping out. Do not give our money away. Fix the roofs on the schools. A teacher just told me that she has a desk in her classroom and has to tell her students not to sit there when it rains because the roof leaks.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

October 23, 2017

Brent Edwards states hello Mr. Chairman and the rest of the Board members. I am from the Newsoms district. Randolph is my supervisor. I am here to speak on the golf course. I am torn in between both ways, but one thing that we have got to do, we have ball teams in all these areas in our communities. I have been coaching in Newsoms in the Little League Association for 24 years. I have no kids involved anymore. They are both gone. I have one child, she played and I coached and I have coached up there the last 14 years because I felt it was the right thing to do. We have about 85 kids in just the Newsoms association and just the uniforms were \$6,000. The registration fee, all it does is pay for the uniforms. That is what we have to deal with every year. We have these ball parks and have to pay these light bills. We raise money. I am involved with several organizations within the Newsoms area. The Ruritan club, on the Board for the Little League, and President of the Hunt Club. We have been in bad positions in all but three of these organizations that I am in. We have had to hunker down and have fund raisers to help us get us to where we are at. We have been real successful in the Newsoms area in all these organizations. Our bank accounts are up. We had to get to work. We had to put some effort in it. Nobody gave us anything. And that is what we have to think about. We have recreation in this county. It starts with little league ball. Some of you all had kids that played in it and had grandkids that play in it. We have a lot of kids throughout this county. Over 600 kids in the little league baseball and girls softball. Newsoms has three softball teams with girls, three boys baseball teams, two t-ball teams, and one coach pitch. It just is not Newsoms, these other places are doing the same thing. And I have played golf. I love the game. I play, but we need to think about what we are going to do. We have never asked the county for any money. We had to go out and raise our own money and worked hard for it. So, let's put a little effort toward the Country Club to help them raise some money. Give them some suggestions. I do not think giving it to them is right. They need to work for it. You have to work for what you get. Ain't nobody going to give you nothing anymore. At least work for it. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states please give us your name for the record.

Brent Edwards states sorry. My name is Brent Edwards.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Frank Urquhart states yes sir. Good evening gentlemen. My name is Frank Urquhart and I am from Ivor, Virginia. Chairman Dallas and the rest of the distinguished Board. First, I love your little light over here. It kind of makes me feel like I am up at the General Assembly. I am here to speak on behalf of those who do not have the voice to come here to speak in opposition to your proposal. Personally, I am very conflicted on the matter because I received a few text messages over the weekend, so I said, okay I need to do a little research to see what is going on here. The more I delved into it, it became a solution looking for a problem. So, two people that I heard here tonight said that if the Chamber of Commerce businesses were willing to get into a membership or buy a membership to do some funding operations, then that would be fine. Also, in looking in the research, it looks like the Country Club as a corporate entity is failing miserably, as far as their funding. So they are really in dire straits. Also, it was spoken here that many organizations here have used the Country Club for fundraisers. Well, if the Country Club has given them that opportunity for free or small fee, then I would almost look at it like Granddaddy letting you use the yard to hold a party. If Granddaddy has been so accommodating for you to hold a party, then it is time to help Granddaddy out. So do a fundraiser for the Country Club. People have said that they have raised \$10, \$20, \$30,000. So four or five fundraisers for the Country Club, I think you will have close to \$100,000 easy. That being said, on this agreement that we are supposed to be signing off on, just who are we dealing with because in all of my research this thing is more tied up than an Enron situation. Along those lines I would say hold up we have a little bit of time left. Are we dealing with Cypress Cove Country Club incorporated or are we dealing with Cypress Cove Country Club Membership Association. Who are we actually dealing with here and who is asking for this to go through? Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else?

Glenn Updike states I am Glenn Updike from Newsoms. I think you all know my viewpoints on the two issues. Absolutely no on both, the new courthouse and also the \$30,000. This is not a one-time deal. It is going to run years. I am predicting that if you all approve it, then next year it will probably be \$75,000 instead of \$30,000. Then it will continue for eternity. It is open-ended. Now just think about that. You will be surprised, but usually I am complaining about the officials

of the county, tonight I want to make a very very heart felt thank you to one county official. If you remember a couple of years ago, we were sitting here collecting money from the selling of delinquent properties. What the county was doing was pocketing all the excess profit from these sales. I was fortunate enough to meet Rick Francis at a meeting and he told me, that I would be proud of it because recently he had two cases, one was \$8,000 and one was \$4,000. And it took him only one phone call to find these two people. I think the reason that you do not try to find these people is that you want to put it in the bank account of the county. That is not right. And I thank God that we have an official that has got some integrity and guts to follow through on our recommendations of years past.

Chairman Jones states thank you, anyone else? Public comment is now closed. Anyone have any problems with the minutes? Any corrections? If not, then the minutes will stand approved. We will go to highway matters.

Michael Johnson states item a, Mr. Chairman, is the report on the U.S. Route 58 Arterial Management Plan. As you may recall, the Amended and Restated Memorandum of Agreement with the HRTPO, which this Board approved in June 2016, obligated the HRTPO to commit to completion of a Route 58 Corridor Study extending to the Greenville County line, not later than July 2020. I am pleased to report that the study, titled "U.S. 58 Arterial Management Plan" has been initiated by VDOT's project consultant, Michael Baker International. The \$220,000 study is expected to be complete by September 2018 and will include at least two local public meetings, the first of which is expected sometime in early December. The stated purpose of the Arterial Management Plan is to develop a holistic approach that identifies ways to ensure safety and preserve the capacity of the Commonwealth's arterial highway network without wide scale roadway widenings. The study area is 70.5 miles in length and extends from the Greenville/Brunswick county line to the eastern terminus of the Suffolk Bypass. Michael Baker International will collect and review traffic data, crash data, they will conduct a field review of existing conditions, review and consider future land uses along the route, and project and forecast future traffic volumes. With that information, they'll develop strategies and alternatives that will be applied to the corridor to address geometric, operational, safety, and access deficiencies. These recommendations may include access management, alternative intersection design, traffic signal operations, and zoning/land use policy recommendations. Systemic safety recommendations will also be identified. Together these strategies and recommendations will create a long-term arterial management plan to allow the corridor to function efficiently as traffic volumes grow over future decades. For each of the recommendations, the implementation timeframe and responsible parties will be identified. In addition, the study will also include a high-level fatal flaw analysis to determine if improving or relocating the US 58 corridor as an interstate justifies moving forward with a more detailed study as part of a follow-on phase. This analysis will identify whether improving US 58 to interstate standards is practical from a travel time savings and cost basis prior to committing to further study. The corridor travel time will be updated with the analysis results to determine the future corridor travel time. This future travel time will be used as a base to be compared to the travel time of a possible interstate facility. High level planning cost estimates will be calculated for three alternatives. An interstate facility on a totally new alignment. Upgrading the current US 58 corridor to interstate quality standards. Or upgrading the current US 58 corridor to a limited access arterial. I have included in your agenda packages a number of documents. Copies of the presentation from the work group's first meeting as well as the scope of the study and their findings of the initial evaluation of the existing conditions. I will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Chairman Jones states does any Board member have any questions.

Supervisor West states for public information, Mr. Johnson, I am calling for a figure now, but do you have any idea of a rough number of how many cars and vehicles travel 58 each day. Just an idea of what we are talking about weekend and weekday traffic.

Michael Johnson states average daily traffic is between 20,000 to 25,000 vehicles a day and growing.

Supervisor West states between 20,000 to 25,000 vehicles a day.

Michael Johnson states that is correct.

October 23, 2017

Supervisor West states and we are talking about a potential for interstate quality and so forth. Okay.

Michael Johnson states one of the tasks for this study is to look at the future growth and demand of the Board of Virginia. What percentage of that traffic is expected to travel along route 58 to help project future traffic problems.

Supervisor West states I just wanted those figures out for general information. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states any other questions? Alright, go to b.

Michael Johnson states item b, Dr. Modlin made reference to, actually items b and c. At your continued joint meeting with the Planning Commission on October 4, Dr. Edwards shared with me a letter that he had received from School Board Vice Chairman Jim Pope, seeking assistance in establishing a School Zone Speed Limit on U.S. Route 58 in front of the Southampton High & Middle School campus. I have already contacted VDOT and asked their Traffic Engineering Division to move forward with a study to identify the appropriate reduced speed, and further identify the size and locations of the Beacon Assemblies, flashing lights that Dr. Modlin referred to. The "Reduced School Speed Limit Ahead" and "End School Zone" signs, and the hours of operation for the flashing beacons. Once that is done, it will be the responsibility of the School Board to enter into agreement with VDOT to furnish, install, operate, and maintain School Zone Speed Limit Signs, and to bear all the costs in connection with the purchase, installation and maintenance of the signs, posts, poles, foundations, conduits, cables, cabinets, signal housings, attachment hardware, lights, solar panels, and other parts and accessories necessary for proper and efficient operation of those signs, plus the cost of electric current. I have included in your agenda packages a copy of VDOT's policies. It is very plainly stated what that policy is. It has a copy of that agreement that they will ask the School Board to enter into before they move forward with installation of those signs. Item c, with regard to the Riverdale Elementary School traffic study, Supervisors Phillips and Porter both contacted me regarding correspondence from Dr. Shannon to Chairman Jones as it relates to the access turn lane for Riverdale Elementary School on Camp Parkway. I have contacted Hampton Roads Development to seek their consideration in moving forward with their voluntary proffer to obtain an independent traffic study to evaluate potential improvement of the access and traffic flow on the school property before applying for their building permits at the Camp Parkway Commerce Center. You may recall, that was one of their voluntary proffers. I have already heard back from them. They have agreed to move ahead with that study. They engaged their project's consultant. I have provided Dr. Shannon's name as a contact, so hopefully that study will soon be done. I have also had discussions with Mr. Jerry Kee with VDOT, we have identified a certain amount of safety money that may be available to construct any turn lane improvements that may be identified as part of that study. Any questions on that?

Chairman Jones states does any Board member have any question? Okay. Thank you very much. Monthly concerns. Mr. West.

Supervisor West states no. They are mowing and everything is going well, surprisingly. Pot holes are an issue. I have contacted VDOT on those already, so I am pleased with that.

Chairman Jones states Dr. Edwards.

Supervisor Edwards states Mr. Johnson, I think you remember that last month I asked for some sort of update on the work that was supposedly ongoing at Governor Darden Road and Flaggy Run Road.

Michael Johnson states yes. I have got one. This is what I received Thursday from VDOT. "We are working in other parts of the county on items that have come up that take higher priority, with planning we will go back to Flaggy Run to complete those. We will be doing tree trimming on Flaggy Run and Country Club in Courtland, but some of the crews have been pulled off to go to Florida. We do plan on completing the patching work at a later date."

Supervisor Phillips states they were trimming today, the tree limbs on Country Club.

Supervisor Edwards states I hate to be a thorn in their side, but it sounds a little ambiguous to me. I would like and greatly appreciate a little bit more information instead of just a later date. There are improvements that need to be done there and they have gone halfway. For somebody to tell me that it is going to be a later date, it does not mean a whole lot to me. And it does not mean a whole lot to the people who drive up and down the road.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states Mike, we talked about River Road this afternoon, right.

Michael Johnson states correct.

Supervisor Phillips states I will get with you. I have got a couple of dead limbs overhanging the road. I would just urge those that are here tonight that are in the farming community, to let your supervisor know if you see dangerous things overhanging the road. Something that is going to drag and tear up your equipment as you go from field to field as you get up your harvest. VDOT, in the past, has worked with us and what we need to do is get that list to them so they can schedule it. I would say that we are available to receive those requests. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. Cook.

Supervisor Cook states I have a couple of items from citizens. I have talked to Ben Bryant, he works for VDOT in our area.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. Porter.

Supervisor Porter states I have also talked directly with VDOT.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Faison states I would like to reemphasize what Mr. Phillips was saying. When you contact your supervisor we will certainly respond. Call your supervisor and then follow up to see the results.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Johnson, the people who are cutting the grass on those turn areas that we have on 58. Especially right down from my house, the markers down there, they have knocked a couple of them over.

Michael Johnson states are these on the crossovers or the turn lane.

Chairman Jones states the crossover in the middle.

Michael Johnson states in the median.

Chairman Jones yes. In the median. They have those green and white signs.

Michael Johnson states okay.

Chairman Jones states alright. We will go to number 7. Appointments.

Michael Johnson states number 7, Mr. Chairman, we have one appointment for the Board of Zoning Appeals from last month.

Supervisor Cook states I am pleased to announce that I have spoken to Mr. Darden and he is agreeable to being reappointed. I will make a motion to reappoint Mr. Brian Darden to the Board of Zoning.

Supervisor Porter states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Chairman Jones states alright. Go to 8, reports. Sherriff's Office, Animal Control, Litter Control, Community Development, Treasurer's Office, Mr. Britt are you here? He is not here. Cooperative Extension, Solid Waste Quantities, Personnel.

Michael Johnson states I will be right with you. I am having a hardware issue. Included in your agenda packages is a copy of the personnel report. We had two employees hired during the month in the Sheriff's Office. Travis T. Carr, effective 10/01/17, annual salary of \$35,213. And Tyler E. Ezzell, effective 10/10/17, annual salary \$35,213. We had three employees to separate during the month. 10/04/17 in the Utilities Department, Robert C. Howell. We also had two employees in the Sherriff's Office separate, Benjamin R. K. Thorpe, effective 10/06/17 and Colin J. Wright on 09/22/17. We had one compensation board adjustment in the Sherriff's Office, Kimberly N. Smith 10/1/2017, \$37,611.

Chairman Jones states thank you. Mrs. Carr, do you have anything? Okay. Thank you. We will go to number 9, financial matters. We need the bills paid.

Supervisor West states yes sir. I make a motion that all bills be paid properly.

Supervisor Edwards states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved the motion to pay bills in the amount of \$1,770,788.07, to be paid by check numbers 154207 through 154785, with a voice vote recorded as follows:

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Chairman Jones states alright. Go to number 10.

Michael Johnson states Mr. Chairman, as we discussed in August and September, a \$30,000 "placeholder" was included in the FY 2018 budget under the Parks, Recreation & Cultural category for "Parks and Recreation Shared Services." Supervisors Porter and West have been working with their counterparts in the City of Franklin to develop a contract opportunity whereby county and city residents could have access to play golf locally at Cypress Cove for \$25 per round without investing in club membership. Among other things, the course would also be made available at no charge to the golf teams from Southampton High School and Southampton Academy, as well as local youth programs including *The First Tee* and Boys and Girls Club in Franklin. Included in your agenda package, you have a copy of the presentation from the August

meeting, outlining the terms and benefits of the proposed agreement, which is for 1 year, and thereafter subject to annual review and approval. The City of Franklin has already approved the agreement, it is now subject to the County's favorable consideration. You also have a number of letters to the editor that have appeared over the last two months.

Chairman Jones states alright gentlemen. You have heard all the comments on the golf course, so what say you.

Supervisor Edwards states Mr. Chairman, can I say something. In the last meeting I voiced my opposition to using taxpayer's money for private endeavors and that is what this is and I still voice that. I am fully convinced, what you have seen tonight and what I have heard, taxpayers of Southampton County are not in favor of this. I think about when we had the school budget and we turned down four or five teachers and two or three teacher's aides, we have \$30,000 here. I would sure like to see that \$30,000 go to get us a teacher's aide in one of the classrooms because I know that they need it. The problem I see here is that I think that we have gone about this problem in the wrong way. Usually when you have a problem, I am used to all of the parties sitting down together and getting together and identifying what the problem is and then coming up with some sort of solution. But I do not see that. I see a disjointed effort here from the City and one from the County. The Country Club does not seem to be involved in this. I do not know who we are dealing with, as the gentlemen said previously tonight. I think that if we are going to do anything, then we need to do this right. We need to sit down with all the parties involved, identify the problem, and then see what kind of solutions we can come up with, rather than throwing money out like this. I think this money is going to be wasted. This is like the Federal Government. When there is a problem, they throw money at it. I think that is what we are proposing to do. Everybody wants to try and solve this problem, but I think we need to go about it a different way. We need to get all the different parties involved. The County, the City, the Country Club, the Board of the club, the members of the club, the citizens of the County all together and sit down and see what kind of reasonable solutions we can come up with, rather than throwing away \$30,000 and looking about doing it next year and actually we have not solved the problem. I want to see some different route taken to solve this problem, rather than proposing \$30,000. We do not know where it is going. We do not know where it is going to be going. We know nothing. We do not know what the problems are. What is going on? Why are people not joining the Country Club? Let's get all the people who are involved in this together. Let's sit down and come up with a reasonable solution. We can do that. I am just not used to solving problems like that. In my profession, if I do not know what is going with something, then I ask for some help. So I would propose that we take a different route to do this. I think we all have the same part in this. We do want to do something, but I think we are going about it in a very disjointed way.

Richard Railey states there is already a motion on the floor. It was tabled, but that motion is still there.

Chairman Jones states you mean from last month.

Richard Railey states yes.

Supervisor West states the motion was to come back with more information.

Supervisor Phillips states well I am prepared to say something right now.

Chairman Jones states alright Mr. Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states because of my concerns last month, I asked to have this matter continued for further study. I have looked at the economics of the golf course as much as is available. I took a tour of the golf course this afternoon and I see it as an asset to the county. After I left the golf course I went to the GIS and did some of the same research that you did, Ash. Basically, the houses that back up to the golf course, the lots were \$50,000. There were 27 by the time you count them all. On Calvin Drive they were \$40,000. Jennifer Place was \$45,000. So then I went to a comparison of Bethel Farms, which is right through the woods, \$30-35,000. So these people are paying a higher premium because of this golf course, I believe. I think we will lose more than we gain by saving this \$30,000, but what I would like to do, to some degree, is agree with Dr. Edwards. I am here to fairly represent all the citizens. The concerns that I heard tonight, I would like to see the golf course move more and more to a public stance. I think there are other concerns

here in the county. The library, for example, is not open because it does not have the funding. To the gentlemen that spoke about the recreation with the baseball, there is \$1,000 in the budget this year for each association. Which is a start and a step in the right direction. I think that some good points have been made tonight and further, I think there are some good suggestions. I would again tonight, like to make a motion to continue this and hold this as an open matter and to postpone our vote until we can see what can be achieved by the friends of the golf course, before investing our county money. I would put that as a motion sir.

Supervisor Edwards states I would second that.

Chairman Jones called for a vote. This will be to table this matter.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	NAY
Ronald M. West	NAY
R. Randolph Cook	NAY
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	NAY
Carl Faison	AYE

Chairman Jones states we have four against continuing. We have to do something tonight. Is that right Richard?

Richard Railey states that is correct.

Supervisor West states the original motion that has been put out is for entering into an agreement with the Country Club for the golf; for public purposes, but it is a private entity, that is willing to allow public use of a facility that many of us have said, well I do not fit in, or I am not a member, or things that go on are not me. I do attend a church that has a gymnasium and a recreational facility on the back of it and over the years many teams from various churches and other outside areas have played basketball and volleyball there. I am not a hunter. Hunting seems to be the recreation for the county. I am not and I apologize to all of you. I have had a number of people drive on my land that assume that hunting means you drive where you want to and when you want to and so forth. That is unimportant at this point. My point is simply this, it is an amenity. It is an opportunity to have a facility that we can all enjoy. I am looking at the potential for the First Tee program. I am looking at the potential for a lot of people to raise money, by using the facility. That is a great way to do things. Many businesses and localities have tournaments and they raise money. They use that facility. My favorite from that standpoint, I cannot and do not know the things that Mrs. Sumblin does that you have come up with to do your evaluation for taxes. I do know that \$21,000 a year comes from the Country Club to the taxes for this County. I do know that if the club closes for whatever the reason, I have seen Smithfield Downs and I have seen a number of courses that are local to me, close. And I see weeds and trees and unfortunately things happen. I do not think that it what any of us want tonight. It is a one year, no more than that, opportunity to take a private business to allow public use and I think it is a good opportunity for a one time basis.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Porter.

Supervisor Porter states I think there is a misunderstanding about what this is and what we are trying to do. It is a service contract. Strictly a services contract and what it does, is guarantees for one year services to county residents. It does exactly what Mr. Phillips wants it to do. It makes the golf course completely available to every resident of the County at a significantly discounted fee. It will be like a public access course, I do not want to call it a public course, but it is a public access course, if we sign this agreement. Anybody in the County will be able to go play golf at this course without being a member. Additionally, it guarantees a home course for all the schools, Paul D Camp, the First Tee, the Boys and Girls Clubs. All of these organizations that want to introduce golf as a way of helping their kids grow. I have heard some other groups interested in that. I also have had 15 years of experience in real estate. I respect Mr. Cutchin, but I think Mr. Phillip's analysis is appropriate. I had significant experience selling golf course homes. It is not only the courses or the homes that demand the value, but also the courses in the area. The basic

criteria is, any home within a ten minute drive of a golf course benefits in value from that course. As you look, you have these nice big lots in Bethel Farms that are \$30,000. You have got these one half acres lots in Scottswood that are basically half the value. You are going to see those houses go down in value significantly. Mrs. Moore is right. She is nervous. Maybe I am for this because I have talked to people in Scottswood and they are nervous because they know what is going to happen to their property. It is going to go down. But what is going to happen to the County? Our tax revenues are going to go down. And then there is going to be significantly more because we do collect roughly \$20,000 in taxes from the Country Club already. We are going to lose that. That is a \$10,000 net. And that is a drop in the bucket for the tax revenues that we are going to lose just in Scottswood and the area right in there. Incidentally, I counted the lots too. There are 24 along Scottswood, 8 along Country Club Road, and there were three that you forgot, between 15 and 16 greens; I think one of them is where Billy Smith's lot backs up to the course. I think there are two more, maybe the McCann's house and the lots, but they are not the only ones that will be affected. The lots on the course will definitely lose \$10,000 to \$20,000 in value. That is my opinion as a real estate broker. It is like the beach. If you are in Nags Head and you have a home on the beach, then it has a certain high value, but once you cross the street, you still have a value in that cottage, but it is less than what they have on the beach. The further you get away from the beach, the less value you have as being a beach house. That is the same way for a golf course. The County will lose much more than \$30,000 if the golf course goes under. We will lose the opportunity to open the golf course and provide a recreational opportunity not only for kids, but also to adults. We do not have very many opportunities, other than hunting, for the adults. I have not had one person, since last time, call me that was against this proposal. I had one call me that was seeking information because they had heard information that was incomplete and once they heard the true story, they said, "I understand it. I do not like my tax dollars being spent, but I understand it. These will add value, it will not make my taxes go up. It will probably keep them from going up." All of the things that people have already said, the fundraisers, they have already been doing them for the last eight years. They have been struggling for eight years. And they have done fundraisers and they have done everything that they could. They have asked the members for more money. The dues have gone up 50% in the last six years. There have been additional assessments every year. And this is the money that is necessary for them to be successful through next year. If residents do not take advantage of playing on this course, then we will end up next year at the same place. If residents do take advantage, then it will be self-sustaining. It is not the desire of the members to keep people off the course. I hear this term, elite. There are no elite. You have got retired teachers, like Bob Wolf. You have got Mrs. Moore. I do not know what kind of impression you have of the people, but there is no one there that is trying to keep people off the course.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Edwards states Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question?

Chairman Jones states let me go around to everyone. And I will get back to you. Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Faison states the policy of giving public funds to private enterprises, I do not think that generally that is a good idea. But looking at this specific situation, I think that the golf course is good for the county. I think if the golf course were to disappear, then it would be a disadvantage to the county. I hear people speaking tonight of all the things that can be done. The vote tonight does not have to eliminate those things from being done. Now we are talking about this year, \$30,000 for one year. What happens between now and next year will determine whether this has to be continued. After that, we would have to vote again. We will see if it comes up again next year. We still have the option to vote no. As I said, I think the golf course is an asset to the county. I know that we would rather not put our money in something that does not serve us personally. I can remember when the water and sewer was put in for Newsoms, Boykins, and Branchville. I had some people not in favor of that because they were not going to benefit from it. In 2006 we went to land use taxation. Not everybody agrees with that. There are a lot of people in the county that does not benefit from that. They expressed their desires that that not be. I believe that that is very good for the county. I am very much for that too. I really commend those persons that volunteer with the baseball teams, football teams, and all the other teams. I encourage anyone to help. I am pleased to have people work with kids in all capacities. I look at the school. We have baseball teams. The reason we can have them is because we have a baseball field. We have football teams. The reason we can have them is because we have a football field. We have basketball teams because we have basketball courts. We have soccer teams because we have a

soccer field. But what about golf? If it were not for the Country Club, then we would not have golf in the schools. Now admittedly, there are not as many people playing golf as there are football and basketball. But I contend that those kids are important too. The Country Club gives them a place to play golf. I suspect that is going to continue. My eyes have been opened up to golf around here. I never played golf because I never had the opportunity when I was growing up to go to a golf course. My son plays and he love it. The reason he got the opportunity to play is because he went into the army and he had those opportunities. But now we are saying open this course up to the county, so that anyone that wants to play can play for a minimal fee. That is something that has not been in the county and now can be. Again, I think that we would be making a big mistake if we allow the golf course to end. So I feel positive about it.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Cook.

Supervisor Cook states I agree a lot with what Mr. Faison said. I do not think I got a hundred calls from Newsoms, but I got a lot from a good group. It started out that I thought that everyone was against it. I started receiving e-mails and voice mails and in the end it was not 100, but there were many for and against. So no matter how I vote, somebody is not going to be happy. It is an asset to the county. I think everybody will agree with that. It is not a huge amount of money and we will probably be sitting here next year and I expect to see some numbers. How many people from the county participated? Was it worth it? We will not know that, but for a year I am willing to take a chance on it and see if it does really draw the public citizens from Southampton County. I hope it does. I think that would solve our problem if people would play on a regular basis. I do not play golf. But I do play tennis. I would support it for that reason. I would like it to have an opportunity and see how it turns out.

Chairman Jones states alright, you had another question.

Supervisor Edwards states I just wanted clarification on the wording on what we are voting on tonight. I heard two renditions. I heard Mr. West say this is a one-time only. And then I have heard other people say this is a one time and then we re-evaluate. So which is it?

Chairman Jones states Mr. Johnson, which is it.

Michael Johnson states the draft agreement is one year to be reconsidered thereafter.

Supervisor Porter states it is a one year commitment. There is no commitment to reconsider. There will be commitments for future Boards. It is a one year commitment. What you are talking about is semantics. It opens up the possibility. I would hope that next year, we get here and we can continue this agreement with the golf course to allow our citizens to play for no money.

Supervisor Phillips states no money?

Supervisor Porter states no money. If we have enough citizens to play, and the reason for that is simply, it will show that the public will support the course and we do not need to.

Supervisor Phillips states you mean no public money.

Supervisor Porter states yes. No public money. Let me make clear one thing. This agreement is with the operating committee at the course. It is not with Cypress Cove. It is with the operating committee.

Chairman Jones states please no comment. You all have had your say, now we are talking about it.

Supervisor Porter states to answer your question, it is a one year commitment.

Supervisor Edwards states let me clarify that. One year. A year from now, we are not going to be discussing giving another \$30,000.

Supervisor Porter states I hope that a year from now that we are discussing to extend this agreement to allow the citizens of Southampton to play on the course, but we do not have to put any tax money in it.

Supervisor Edwards states you are saying that we are not going to be putting any more tax money in it.

Supervisor Porter states I am not saying that. I am saying that I hope. The reason I want the course, my objective is for the course to be available for all residents of the county to play. If the residents of the county take advantage of the situation, then there will be no need for us to put any more money in. We may come to that. We may say that we need to put in \$5,000. Then you have a decision to make. But if the County does not support it, then you do not have to put anymore in. And they can terminate it. They do not have to renew it either.

Chairman Jones states does that answer your question?

Supervisor Edwards states yes and no. I hear that this is a one-time thing only. And then I hear that this is a one time and then reevaluate it and see if they need \$5,000 or \$10,000, or whatever.

Supervisor Porter states it is a one year commitment with an option to renew. And renew would be renegotiation. I do not know how to put it any clearer.

Supervisor Edwards states so it is open-ended then, in other words.

Supervisor Porter states the commitment is not open-ended. Our option is open-ended. When we have an option, then that means that we get to choose whether we continue or not. We are not obligated to continue.

Supervisor Edwards states okay. You answered my question.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Railey, can you clarify the motion.

Richard Railey states yes sir. You had a motion. You continued the motion from last meeting. You had a motion on the floor ready to vote.

Chairman Jones stated we had a motion, not to continue the matter again.

Richard Railey states you had a motion made and dully seconded and then you had a vote to continue consideration. Now you are here, and you have a motion. You vote it up or down.

Supervisor Porter states and to reiterate, the motion is to approve the agreement with the golf course to permit the citizens with these rights to the course.

Richard Railey states that is correct.

Supervisor West states and we have a second.

Chairman Jones called for vote by a raising of the right hand.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	NAY
S. Bruce Phillips	NAY
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Chairman Jones states alright. Let's go to number 11. Before we get started, there will be a five minute break. We are now back in session. Please settle if you are staying. Alright. Go to number 11. Courthouse Referendum Matters.

October 23, 2017

Michael Johnson states item a, Mr. Chairman is a summary of the voter education efforts you see in your agenda packages. A chronological listing of efforts over the past 75 days intended to enhance voter understanding of the referendum question. You see there a list of 15 or 16 different presentations or events, where brochures were made available. In addition, we will be direct mailing the attached brochure to each Southampton County household with at least 1 registered voter. We did not send one to every registered voter. We only sent one to each household to try and minimize that cost. We are authorized by § 24.2-687 (B) of the *Code of Virginia*; they are expected to hit mailboxes about a week before the election. Mr. Vick brought up in his public comment, a question on notification of the public meetings. I will be glad to address that. We used a variety a means and methods of notifying the public of these community meetings. The Boykins meeting, which was the first meeting that we held, we did not have the list available from the State Board of Elections at the time, so we utilized the listing of our water and sewer customers in the Boykins, Branchville, and Newsoms area. We made sure that they all received a direct mail notice of the meeting. We also ran notice of those meetings in the Tidewater News. We had about 30 citizens to show up at that meeting. For the Ivor community meeting, we had received the list from the State Board of Elections by that time. We mailed out a little over 2,000 to voters in the Ivor, Wakefield, and Zuni zip codes. We had about 30 folks show up for that meeting. For the Courtland community meeting, we used the voter registration list. We mailed out a little over 4,000 notices to the Courtland, Capron, Drewryville, Emporia, I want to say there was one other zip code in there. We had about 30 folks show up for that meeting. So at the Franklin meeting, we did not use the voter list, we used the Tidewater News again to get the word out on that particular meeting. We allowed to City to notify their own voters as they saw fit. They chose to use their cable access channel. We published the notice in the Tidewater News twice. About 25 to 30 people showed up at the meeting. We tried a variety of means and methods, but did not see much success with any of them, quite frankly. Item b, section § 24.2-687 of the *Code of Virginia* reads in part that the Board may provide for the preparation and printing of a neutral explanation of the Courthouse referendum question, prepared by the County Attorney and limited to 500 or fewer words, for distribution at the polling places on November 7. In addition, the explanation may be published by paid advertisement in a local newspaper one or more times preceding the referendum. The explanation must contain the actual ballot question and the neutral explanation must be in nontechnical, readily understandable language using words of common everyday usage and avoiding legal terms and phrases or other terms and words of art whose usage or special meaning primarily is limited to a particular field or profession. In other words, no legalese. Mr. Railey has expressed a willingness to prepare the explanation if the Board so directs him. What we are seeking tonight is your direction. Whether you would like that neutral explanation to be for distribution on election day at the polling places. And further, if you would like Mr. Railey to prepare, if you would also like us to publish that explanation in a paid ad in the Tidewater News in advance of the referendum.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. West.

Supervisor West states curious. I am in favor of having Mr. Railey to prepare this document. My question to you would be, do you know roughly a guestimate of cost associated with doing this.

Michael Johnson states if you do a display ad, just one time, it would probably be \$300-\$400.

Supervisor West states okay. And the documents handed out.

Michael Johnson states Mr. Railey's time plus the cost for duplication and then they are just made available by the registrar's polling places. Pretty minimal.

Richard Railey states you do not have to put anybody at the polling places to hand them out.

Supervisor West states okay.

Supervisor Phillips states would that be in the City as well?

Michael Johnson states yes.

Supervisor Edwards states do you need a motion on this?

Supervisor West states I think what we need to do is put it out there as soon as we can on that day and let the people have it in their hands. Doc, do you want to make the motion?

Supervisor Edwards states I make the motion. I do not think that we should stop halfway. We need to go the whole way. Advertise in the paper and have it available, per Mr. Railey, at the polling places. I make a motion we go ahead and do that.

Supervisor West states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Richard Railey states would you like me to put it in the paper too?

Chairman Jones states yes. Alright. Go to number 12.

Michael Johnson states item number 12, Mr. Chairman, is consideration, please find separate resolutions of support for two projects recently endorsed by the HRPDC for submittal to the "GO VIRGINIA" Regional Council. The first one is the Hampton Roads Regional Broadband Strategy. The HRPDC is coordinating with the City of Virginia Beach to submit a GO Virginia proposal to construct a regional fiber optic network that will connect to the new Transatlantic high capacity data cable, recently installed between Spain and Virginia Beach. If funded, the network will be constructed in 4 phases. The fiber extension to Southampton County would likely occur in the final phase, which we anticipate to be in 2020, but potentially it could come in the phase in 2019. From there, we will look to partner with Microsoft to develop a series of Wi-Fi access points across the region for last mile connections in rural areas. The City of Virginia Beach has taken the lead in developing the project and you have a copy of a recent presentation from their City Manager to the HRPDC, which is outlining the strategy. The project was endorsed and authorized last month by the HRPDC for submittal to the Hampton Roads Go Virginia Regional Council. They have asked as they provide that application for resolutions of support from each community. Slides 20-27 of the attached presentation illustrate the planned coverage in Southampton County. You can see that the fiber would be extended along route 58 and probably in route 2020 and then there would be a series of five to six different towers would be constructed for that last mile access. Again, the HRPDC has asked for resolutions of support from its member communities to include with the application.

Chairman Jones states alright gentlemen.

Supervisor West states I hear all the time the need for more access to be able to have the internet to be able to catch up and I think that this is an opportunity to have Wi-Fi. I am surprised the government from Spain to here has a cable, but anyway. That being said, I make a motion that we adopt the resolution of support.

Supervisor Porter states second, but I just want to say one thing first. Maybe we need a little explanation on Go Virginia. Go Virginia is a program that is funded by the states and was recently passed by the General Assembly in the last session. Its purpose is to help regions be more competitive in attracting economic development. That is one of their primary reasons. And each region submits applications for certain projects. The stronger a region supports, and that means all the localities in a region. The more they support the application, then the stronger the application is and the more likely the funding will occur. We are the Hampton Roads region, but we will be competing with every other region in the state for these funds. So I think it is vitally important

that we support the application from Hampton Roads to help assure us that we get our share of the Go Virginia funds. In this case, we will get a direct benefit from this project.

Supervisor Phillips states back when Bug's Island, or whoever started that process.

Supervisor West states Federal Government.

Supervisor Phillips states excuse me.

Supervisor West states it was the Federal Government.

Supervisor Phillips states was there not a cable that was laid here in Courtland with regards to that.

Michael Johnson states not directly for the Bug's Island project. There was a cable that was laid by Mid Atlantic Broadband that runs along route 58.

Supervisor Phillips states still available.

Michael Johnson states still available.

Supervisor Phillips states you said there would be four or five towers that would get it to all of our residents.

Michael Johnson states if you look at slide...

Supervisor Phillips states I think it was ninety-some pages.

Michael Johnson states if you look at slide 28 of 42. This illustrates the tower locations and the connections.

Supervisor Phillips states maybe they could put cell phone service on them.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Chairman Jones states go to b.

Michael Johnson states item b, Mr. Chairman, is also a similar project with, again, Go Virginia. This project is being coordinated with York County and the City of Hampton to establish a facility that would be made available for any company to develop, test, or demonstrate unmanned systems. The site is 462 acres, located between Penniman Road and Colonial Parkway, near the Yorktown Naval Weapons Station. The testing and demonstration area would be located on approximately 192 acres of the property. The remaining 241 acres could be established as a light industrial park, with flex space, for unmanned systems companies and related businesses. This particular application is looking for \$2.5 million in GO Virginia funding for land planning, engineering, and infrastructure development of that site. The localities would have the option, if they chose to invest in this project, if they wanted to receive a proportional return on whatever they invested. But if the localities choose not to invest, then they are under no obligation.

Chairman Jones states okay. What say you Board?

Supervisor West states do you feel the same sense here Barry?

Supervisor Porter states this is a regional application. I think that it would be more successful if we support it. Where we may not get any direct benefit from this specific application, there may be other applications in the future where we get more benefit than some of the other localities and then we will need their support for. I think we should support this as well.

Chairman Jones states alright. Any other comments. I need a motion.

Supervisor Porter states so moved.

Supervisor West states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried

Chairman Jones states go to number 13.

Michael Johnson states number 13, Mr. Chairman, is correspondence from the Virginia Association of Counties regarding the voting credentials for the 2017 Annual Business Meeting to be held on November 14, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in Bath County, Virginia. It is necessary for the Board to authorize a delegate to cast its votes. Chairman Jones and I have made plans to attend.

Supervisor West states we have how many votes?

Chairman Jones one.

Supervisor West states would you like to do it?

Chairman Jones states you go ahead. I need you to take care of the business.

Supervisor West states I motion to appoint Chairman Jones as the voting delegate representing Southampton County.

Supervisor Faison states second.

Vice Chairman West called for a vote.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Supervisor Porter states now do we need an alternate, and can Michael be an alternate?

October 23, 2017

Michael Johnson states it has to be an elected official. You can delegate a proxy. I know they allow delegating a proxy to a staff member, if there is no Board member there.

Supervisor Porter states what if, for some reason, at the last minute Chairman Jones was unable to go. How would we be represented?

Michael Johnson states you might want to delegate a proxy.

Supervisor Porter states that requires a motion from the Board?

Michael Johnson states correct.

Supervisor Porter states so moved.

Supervisor Phillips states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Dallas O. Jones	AYE
Ronald M. West	AYE
R. Randolph Cook	AYE
Alan W. Edwards	AYE
S. Bruce Phillips	AYE
Barry T. Porter	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Chairman Jones states go to item 14, miscellaneous.

Michael Johnson states just some routine correspondence and notices, Mr. Chairman. I will be glad to answer any questions.

Chairman Jones states does anyone have any questions? Do we have any late arriving matters?

Michael Johnson states I have none, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Jones states any Board member have anything to bring before this Board? Meeting is adjourned.

There being no further business for tonight the meeting adjourned at 9:09pm.

Dallas O. Jones, Chairman

Michael W. Johnson, Clerk