

At a regular meeting of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors held in the Board Room of the Southampton County Office Center, 26022 Administration Center Drive, Courtland, Virginia on September 25, 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.

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

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.

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Chairman Jones states it is 7:00 p.m. and I'll call this September 25, 2017 board meeting back to order, and it's 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 Edwards 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 we are now in open session. There was no action taken in our closed meeting. It is now citizen comment period.

Ash Cutchins states thanks Mr. Chairman. Good evening, my name is Ash Cutchins and I live on Darden Point Road. Dr. Edwards is my Supervisor. I read in the newspaper that you are considering giving financial support to private businesses. With that in mind, I would like to say a few brief words about my book, which several of you have purchased and enjoyed, I hope. Thank you very much for your support. As of yesterday, we have sold 444 copies locally. I also received a very small royalty check of \$43.90 from my publisher. Several books were sold on Amazon. I have also donated two copies to the Rawls library in Courtland. I plan to donate three to the historical society. I am pleased to report that basically I have recouped my initial investment of \$7500. However, I failed on being a business major. I failed to allow for expenses involved with marketing. We have had about a dozen book signings; including four in Franklin, four in Courtland, one each in Newsoms, Boykins, Windsor, Capron and York. My math calculations indicate 402 miles round trip, driven for these book signing. Including gas, insurance, and incidental routine maintenance expenses, it cost me about .14 cents per mile to operate my family

car. 402 miles times .14 cents per mile equals \$56.28. I also paid \$30 for a sign. Therefore, I would like to apply for a grant, stipend, or a contribution; whatever you would like to call it from you, the Board of Supervisors and the tax payers in the amount of \$86 to support my marketing activities. My mailing address is on file with Mr. Johnson's office. Thank you for letting the public speak.

Chairman Jones alright. Anyone else?

John Burchett states that guy right there is my Supervisor, Bruce. First thing I would like to say is, I am hoping the local people who are here for the public hearings, will stay here for number 11 on the agenda. Which is about giving money to a private business. It will be interesting, I assure you. I can guarantee it will be interesting. With that being said, I want to thank Mr. Johnson for coming out to Sebrell and giving his presentation on this thing here. If anybody looks at this and does not think it is skewed to building a new courthouse. It is called voter education. I call it voter indoctrination. This thing is geared in favor of building a new courthouse. It is not supposed to, but it is. If you cannot see that, then I am sorry. Last year or somewhat before that, we discussed the renovation of the old courthouse before the new one came up; at one of your workshops with Mr. Johnson. The estimation was 15 to 18 million dollars. I cannot understand how it grew from 15 or 18, to over 26 million dollars. And this brochure, I had to ask Mike a question in Sebrell. It says absolutely nothing about how we are going to pay for it. We are going to spend every penny we got. Every penny we get back from the savings on the garbage, the SPSA bill, plus \$925,000, I have been told, from a one-time Enviva contribution and a .04 cent tax increase. We are spending money and we have got to do something, I agree, but we do not have to spend \$27 million dollars. We can do it at the old courthouse. There are some common sense people in this county. We did not listen to them when we did the sewage thing. I hope you all will listen to them now. Give us a break. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states anyone else?

Glenn Updike states I am Glenn Updike from Newsoms. I want to follow up on a few comments that John just made. It was very disappointing. I have been to four of these county meetings. It has been very very disappointing. What is the total cost? Not a word of it has been in the brochure or even mentioned. If you build a new courthouse, what are you going to do with the old one? We do not know. To tear it down will cost about 3 million. Whatever you do will cost a million. You will also have a maintenance and upkeep cost for every cotton picking year from now on out. It is the same thing with transporting the prisoners back and forth to the courts. You need more vehicles, more police, and that is a yearly cost on the budget. I do not know how in the world this is not added in the results of the building a new courthouse. Third thing is, we have asked, they have asked, nobody has done it. What effect is it going to have on Courtland? You can go in any community that has a courthouse or traffic change and the area has just dried up. I am encouraging you. I want you to address those two things. Courthouse, are you in favor or not in favor of it. Also, transporting prisoners. That does not have anything to do with building or not building one. But the total cost be told to the citizens. The third thing is, using the trash fee reduction to pay for the bills. That is a fee, not taxes. You cannot take a fee from one source and from the kitty for tax purposes. I think it is illegal. And first of all, everybody here knows, and the audience knew it was supposed to be just for the trash. Not for building a new courthouse. I will do some more a little later.

Chairman Jones states okay, anyone else?

Larry Rose states gentlemen good afternoon. My name is Larry Rose. I live in the Jerusalem District. I have come tonight in support of giving the Country Club \$30,000. My reason is this, I do not think there are many members or people speaking about this issue that understand it. I became the first African American member of the club 28 years ago. So I think I have quite a bit of experience with the Country Club. Over that period of time, the last seven or eight years, I retired in 2007, a couple of years back. We had golf tournaments out there to raise money for the Southampton Athletic Department. You all did not have the money to help. We raised over \$70,000. And we put all that money back into the school systems. Nobody talks about that. Nobody talks about Franklin High School also had their golf tournaments there, or Southampton Academy also had their fund raising golf tournaments there. All that money goes back to the school system. The money that keeps you from having to give to them. Just last Wednesday I stopped out there, and Southampton and three other high school teams were permitted to use the

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club for their golf tournament. They do not have anywhere else. Without them they would not have golf teams. I guess what I am trying to say is, I can understand when people say you are going to give them \$30,000. But I can tell you they have given the school systems a lot more than \$30,000. If I need to show it, then I can prove it. A lot of the equipment that we have at Southampton High School now, the track and all that stuff, they are going through that money. We spent every dime of that money in athletics. So gentlemen, I do believe that it is worth spending \$30,000. And something else. Does Southampton County have a recreational department? What do we expect our kids to be able to do? And now we have a little bit of recreation, if we keep going to the club. Not only is there golf, but there is tennis and a junior golf club from ages of 7 to 13. These are activities that you do not sponsor, you do not have. That is the reason I stand behind \$30,000. Had we had known this a few years back, then we could have given \$30,000. So gentlemen, please take this under consideration that it is also a fundraiser for a lot of different activities, the Chamber of Commerce, Relay for Life, quite a few tournaments have gone on to raise money for those people. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you. Anyone else.

Linda Vick states Mr. Jones did you want us to save our comments for the golf thing until you get to 11a.

Chairman Jones states whenever you would like to come up. This is public comment period. You can talk about anything that you want to talk about. There will be public comments for that.

Linda Vick states I want to save my comments for then.

Chairman Jones states anyone else? Public Comment is now closed. Gentlemen, do you have any problem or corrections to the minutes. If not, then they minutes stand approved. Highway matters. Mr. Johnson.

Michael Johnson states I did not really have anything to report. Mr. Chairman, in your agenda package you will see a copy of the concerns that were expressed last month. We shared that with VDOT. I will be happy to take any of your concerns this month.

Chairman Jones states Mr. West.

Supervisor West states I am pleased to say some mowing has taken place. That is highly appreciated by motorists and it just makes it nice for movement. Again, I go back to this picking up the litter, litter control. I must say that people cannot pick up litter on the side of the road, that has agreed to take care or sponsor a piece or road, when the grass is waist high. And thank you VDOT for getting around to the second cutting this year and a lot of the trees that are over hung. So I am going to say thank you VDOT two times. Job well done and needed.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Faison states nothing to report.

Chairman Jones states Dr. Edwards.

Supervisor Edwards states yes. I have a couple of concerns, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I think that we brought up the problems on Flaggy Run Road several times ago. We still have some ways to go on that road. I would like to get a report from VDOT on what they have done and what they further are going to do because we still have problems there and I am still getting complaints from citizens who travel that road. I do not think that there is anybody from VDOT here tonight. If we could send that on to them, I would appreciate it. We would like to know the future plans on that. What we asked for is still incomplete. The second thing, it has been brought to my attention, Darden Mills Estate, Darden Mill Road, there are a lot of pot holes there developing. And actually the center of the road is starting to crack and come apart. I would appreciate it, if VDOT could take a look at that and see what they can do to correct that. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Porter.

Supervisor Porter states I have nothing.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states yes sir. I would just point out to everyone, the lights, if you have not noticed, at Food Lion, the caution light now flashes prior to the light changing. That is something that we have worked on for months. After the Kimberly Horne study that they did over a year ago. To get that, that was one of the aspects that they recommended. They are on both sides of 58, eastbound and westbound. They are now in place and working. I would also like to thank VDOT for mowing on 35, the side of the road was probably 3 or 4 feet tall. Maybe 3 feet. I would also ask that Indian Town road, the trees overhanging the road really need to be trimmed. As we are heading into the harvest season. That would be a real big help. I would ask that anybody that farms or even travels the roads in the county, to let these supervisors know where you see an overhanging limb or dead tree. We now have a crew that has special equipment that can cut the limbs off of trees that are overhanging the road. They are doing some really good trimming.

Carol Keeter states may I add something. I noticed some trees on Shady Brook. There are four or five pines, right on the road are dead. Not a leaf on them, but the trunk is still standing there. It is right in the housing part of Shady Brook.

Supervisor Phillips states feel free to call your supervisor to make them aware of that.

Supervisor West states please do.

Supervisor Edwards states while we are on the subject of overhanging limbs on the roads, Flaggy Run and 464, I have had some complaints from farming people. Their equipment is getting hit with branches and stuff.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Cook.

Supervisor Cook states no sir. They are looking into some ditches for me.

Chairman Jones states alright. Go to number 7.

Michael Johnson states before we move on, can I ask Supervisor Phillips, is there a particular section of Indian Town?

Supervisor Phillips states pretty much the whole thing.

Michael Johnson states it is a long road. I just wanted to make sure.

Supervisor Phillips states it does not look like it has been trimmed recently.

Chairman Jones states alright. Is that is it?

Michael Johnson states item 7, Mr. Chairman is appointments. We talked about it last month. The terms of all SPSA Directors are set to expire on December 31, 2017. The process for appointment of SPSA Directors was amended by the General Assembly in 2009, and now provides that 8 Directors are appointed by the Governor and 8 Directors are appointed by the respective local governing bodies. As you recall from last month, Mrs. Lowe was appointed to succeed me, effective January 1, 2018. With regard to the gubernatorial appointees, the Code of Virginia provides that, *“Each locality that is a member of the authority shall be entitled to nominate individuals to fill one position on the Board of Directors (the Board) by submitting a list of three potential directors, each of whom shall possess general business knowledge and shall not be an elected official, to the Governor. The Governor shall then select and appoint one director from each of the lists of nominees prepared by the member localities.”* Our current representative, Mr. Mark Hodges, is eligible for a second term and has expressed a willingness to continue. In order to comply with the statute, we’ll need two additional nominations, all of which are due to the Secretary of the Commonwealth no later than October 1. Supervisors Phillips, Edwards and West agreed to collaborate in searching for two additional nominees besides Mr. Hodges. I will need current resumes from all nominees to upload to the Secretary of the Commonwealth’s website. With that I will stop and see if we have a report from the committee.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. West.

Supervisor West states I have had success with one well-spoken discerning citizen in Ivor community. That would be Mr. Martin Vick that I would like to recommend as one of the two. I would present his name tonight. He is a very close friend of the Mayor of Ivor. And even married for a great deal of time. I am blessed to offer his name tonight and thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states I would like to nominate William Hart Gillette. He has, I believe, spoken to you today. The resume and requirements necessary are complete. I would like his name to be put into nomination.

Chairman Jones states alright.

Supervisor West states we have the two that are needed. In addition we acknowledge Mr. Hodges, who is still eligible. That would give us the three that we need. I make a motion to make these three nominations our nominees for the Governor to look at.

Supervisor Edwards 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 b.

Michael Johnson states item b, Mr. Chairman, is the Board of Zoning Appeals. We talked about it last month, the terms of 3 members of the BZA will expire September 30, 2017 including Elma A. Brown (Boykins/Branchville), Peter F. Copeland (Franklin) and Brian Darden (Newsoms). Supervisors Faison, Porter and Cook, hopefully, are prepared tonight with a nomination to submit to the Circuit Court. Those appointments are actually made by the Circuit Court, not the Board of Supervisors. You all know, The Code of Virginia provides that a member whose term expires shall continue to serve until his successor is appointed and qualifies. Terms are for 5 years.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Faison states I contacted Mrs. Brown and she would like to continue. But I know that she is not in my district anymore.

Chairman Jones states she is in my district now.

Michael Johnson states she used to be in Boykins.

Chairman Jones states yes. Let her continue. Alright. Newsoms, Mr. Cook.

Supervisor Cook states Mr. Johnson, I do have to apologize. I have not been able to get in touch with Mr. Darden. We have missed each other. I will get back with you next month.

Michael Johnson states that is fine. He will continue to serve until such time.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. Porter.

Supervisor Porter states yes. I would like to re-nominate Mr. Copeland.

Chairman Jones states alright.

Supervisor West states is that our three nominees?

Chairman Jones states we only have two.

Supervisor West states okay two. I motion to accept these.

Supervisor Edwards 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. Move to item c.

Michael Johnson states the last item, Mr. Chairman, is the Board of Building Code Appeals. Mr. Bob Edwards' term on the Board of Building Code Appeals will expire September 30, 2017. The Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) provides that members of the BBBCA should be selected on the basis of their ability to render fair and competent decisions regarding application of the USBC and should, to the extent possible, represent different occupational or professional fields relating to the construction industry. At least one member of that board should be an experienced builder; at least one member should be a registered design professional, and at least one member should be an experienced property manager. Mr. Edwards qualifies as the property manager. Other current members currently include Jason Fowler (Design Professional), Sonny Draper (Builder), Buddy Kea from Ivor (Retired Builder) and Gary Banks (Newsoms).

Chairman Jones states alright. I need a motion.

Supervisor West states I make a motion that Mr. Edwards be allowed to continue to be on the BZA.

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.

Supervisor West states and that is the building code people.

Richard Railey states they meet about once every 10 years.

Supervisor West states that is right.

Chairman Jones states alright. Go to number 8, financial report, Sheriff's Office, animal control, litter control, building permits, cooperative extension, solid waste quantities, and personnel.

Michael Johnson states just a few personnel items to report. We had one employee hired during the month. Tiffany W. Kindred in the Treasurer's Office, effective 9-18-17, annual salary \$30,418. There were two adjustments by the State Compensation Board in the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office. One is Mrs. Amy B. Carr, effective 8-01-17, annual salary of \$75,934. And Mrs. Jeannette S. Everett, effective 8-01-17, effective salary \$48,875.

Chairman Jones states okay. We will go to number 9, financial matters. Alright, Mr. West.

Supervisor West states we have all had an opportunity to look at the bills. I am confident they have been properly audited and are ready for payment. At this time, I would like to make a motion that we pay all the bills, on time, and send them out.

Supervisor Faison states second.

Chairman Jones called for a vote.

The Board approved the motion to pay bills in the amount of \$1,444,451.80, to be paid by check numbers 153874 through 154206, 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, we will go to number 10.

Michael Johnson states our first public hearing tonight, Mr. Chairman, is held pursuant to Section 15.2-1427 and 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, to consider an application by Virginia Electric & Power Company, owner, for a Conditional Use Permit to construct a 190' self-supporting lattice microwave tower with supporting equipment including a generator, propane tank, and equipment shelter, as well as a 150' reduction in the required rear setback and a reduction of 168' to the required side setback. The tower will be situated at the existing Boykins Substation property, located at 31017 Meherrin Road, Boykins, and known as Tax Parcels 100-32 and 100-32A. The property is in the Boykins Voting and Magisterial Districts. It is located at the intersection of Meherrin Road and Lassiters Drive. At its August 10, 2017 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the CUP. The notice of public hearing was published in the Tidewater News on September 10 and September 17, 2017 and all adjacent landowners were notified by first class mail as required by law. After conclusion of tonight's public hearing, the Board will consider the comments offered this evening and will proceed to approve, deny or defer action on the proposed conditional use permit. Mrs. Beth Lewis, Secretary to the Planning Commission, will provide introductory remarks, after which all interested parties are invited to come forward and express their views.

Beth Lewis states good evening. I should just pull up a chair tonight since I have four in a row. This is for a microwave tower. They will use it for their SCADA monitoring and to talk from one facility to the next. This is not a request for a cell tower. There will not be any cell phone antennas on this tower. The equipment they need to install on this tower is not appropriate on a cell tower. It may look alike, but they serve two different functions. The Planning Commission

did have a public hearing. There is only one abutting property owner. He had some concerns, so the Planning Commission continued that public hearing and made their decision. The next month before the second Planning Commission meeting, the attorney for the abutting property owner said that he and Dominion were working out the concerns and that they ask for this matter to go forward to you all, the Board of Supervisors. This is a request for not only a conditional use permit for the tower itself, but also a request of a reduction in setbacks. The setbacks are required to be 110 percent of the height of the tower. Those setback were set years ago when cell towers fell like trees. Now they do not. They fold in on themselves. So there is not any, or very rare for it to have any falling at all, but if it did, it would fold in on itself rather than falling over a property line. The abutting property is all in agriculture use. The closest residence is 1,000 feet away. The Planning Commission had their hearing, they made a unanimous recommendation of approval. Mr. Saunders from Virginia Electric and Power Company as well as other Virginia Power representatives are here and they can answer much more clearly any technical question that you may have. I will be glad to answer any questions about the conditional use permit, if you have any.

Chairman Jones states anyone have any question for Mrs. Lewis. Go ahead.

Supervisor Phillips states was there any discussion, I could not find it when I read through it, about citing the county and EMS.

Beth Lewis states yes. They agreed to that, just as to on the cell towers.

Supervisor Phillips states I just could not find it. Okay. Thank you.

Beth Lewis states yes, that was one of the conditions.

Supervisor West states so it benefits the county in the greater sense.

Beth Lewis states yes and that is on all of the cell tower applications that you have looked at and approved of the past years as well.

Supervisor West states great. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states anyone else have a question? Thank you. This is now a public hearing. Is there anyone for or against this application?

Ben Saunders states hello. I am Ben Saunders. I am with Virginia Electric and Power Company. I am here for the Boykins microwave tower. Trying to get a conditional use permit and a setback variance. This is very similar to the tower that was here last month at our Southampton Power Station. This one is actually 70 feet shorter. So basically, we are trying to create a network to communicate between our substations. This tower will be a part of that network, just like the Southampton Power Station microwave tower. It is part of that network and it allows us to communicate wirelessly between our substations. It improves reliability and our ability to control the substations and improve and analyze them while they are working. As Mrs. Lewis noted, it will only be used internally by the company. So we have left a spot open for public communication in the county, if they want to install an antenna. The tower location is approximately 1.2 miles outside of Boykins. The tower location is at the south east side on Vepco property. It will fenced in and an entrance off of Meherrin Road. As you can see, it is surrounded. It has substation equipment to the northwest of it and there is also two transmission lines to the south and to the north of it. Here is an overview of what it will look like. Basically you have a backup generator, an equipment shelter, and the tower. We have also included landscaping around the fenced area. There are some places that we cannot place it because of power lines. But it will have landscaping to buffer from your view from the road as much as possible. Here is the basic tower design. It is 190 feet with a 5-foot lightning rod. No guy wires, so it is self-supporting. As Mrs. Lewis stated, in the rare event that it would collapse, it would fall in on itself. Two weeks ago we received FCC approval. Besides the variance setback, we meet all the requirements in section 118-427. In terms of locating it on the property, we look at this as a piece of substation equipment. This site is confined, so basically, we put this in the least obtrusive place that we could find that worked with the network design. I can answer any questions. I also have a technical expert here, if you have any questions.

Chairman Jones states okay. Does anyone have any questions? Thank you sir. This is a public hearing. Is anyone for or against this application?

Ash Cutchins states yes sir. My name is Ash Cutchins. I have not been a pilot in many years, but I am concerned for aviation safety. I did not hear any mention of a light. Is the FAA involved in this? Have they required any lighting?

Ben Saunders states yes. We have gotten the necessary approvals for the FAA.

Ash Cutchins states if the Planning Commission has approved it and the adjoining land owners do not have any objections, then I recommend you approve it.

Chairman Jones states yes sir. Thank you. Anyone else? The public hearing is now closed. What say you board.

Supervisor Edwards I would like to make a motion that we go with the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval for the Conditional Use Permit.

Supervisor Faison 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 item b.

Michael Johnson states our second public hearing, Mr. Chairman, is held pursuant to Section 15.2-2272 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, to consider an ordinance vacating a portion of that certain plat of "SEDLEY VA. SURROUNDINGS, ADDITIONS & COUNTY ROADS," surveyed and platted by H.F. Watts, C.E., S.S. & S. R.R., July 1907 and recorded in Plat Book 1 & 2, Page 5 in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. The aforesaid ordinance vacates four 16' x 48' section(s) of alley situated between lots 3 through 6 and lots 9 through 12, Block 66, pursuant to the provisions of § 15.2-2272 (2) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended. Approval and recordation of the aforementioned ordinance shall operate to destroy the force and effect of that part of the plat so vacated, and shall vest fee simple title to the centerline of the 16' alley to the owner of abutting lots free and clear of any rights of the public. The affected property is identified as Tax Parcel 47A2-1-69, owned by Thomas N. and Nancy B. Cogsdale Trusts and is located at 30416 Maple Avenue, Sedley, VA. This property is in the Jerusalem Voting and Magisterial Districts. The notice of tonight's public hearing was published in the Tidewater News on September 10, and September 17, 2017 as required by law. After conclusion of the public hearing, the Board will consider the comments offered this evening and will proceed to adopt, amend or defer action on the proposed ordinance. Again, Mrs. Lewis will give the report from the Planning Commission.

Beth Lewis states this is another one of those alleys in Sedley. It is unused, except in this case, part of the pump house, the garage, and a shed encroach into the alley. They have been there for years. The applicant, Mr. Bon, is representing his mother and his mother's boyfriend, and they are seeking to vacate this alley. The abutting property owners, I am sure you have a copy of the survey, Sidney and Larue Brittle and John and Patricia Carter, have both agreed that they do not want their half of the alley. That is typically what happens when you vacate an alley. The abutting owners each get half, but these abutting owners do not want their half. There are releases from Sedley Water, Sedley Fire, and Dominion that they have no use for this alley either. This

alley is not traversed by any vehicles. Should this be approved, the property owner, Mr. Bon and property owners, would be required to get a new survey and record it increasing the size of their property to include this additional 16 feet. And Mr. Crumpler is here as their representative. No one spoke at the public hearing. And the Planning Commission saw this as just another alley in Sedley. Cleaning up one piece at a time. And they made a unanimous recommendation of approval.

Chairman Jones states alright. Anybody have any questions? Thank you. This is a public hearing. Is there anyone for or against this application?

Dan Crumpler states Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I am Dan Crumpler and I am representing Mr. Bon, trustee on the Cogsdale trust. I do not think that I could have said it any better than Mrs. Lewis did. This is another one of those alleyways in Sedley. Which we are all familiar with. At any rate, we are requesting that alleyway be abandoned between the adjacent landowners, as Mrs. Lewis indicated. Mr. Bon has communicated with the adjacent landowners and they all agree that this property would go to the trust. In this particular case, there seems to not be any opposition. Everyone is in agreement and we ask that it be approved. If anyone has any questions, I will be happy to try and answer them. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you. Anyone have any questions? Anyone else for or against this application? Public hearing is now closed. What say you Board?

Supervisor West states it looks like with all the attachments that this is in order. I make a motion that we adopt it as presented to us.

Supervisor Edwards 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 item c.

Michael Johnson states the third public hearing, Mr. Chairman, held pursuant to Section 15.2-1427 and 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, to consider an application by Robert Clarke, applicant, for RM Clarke Farm Ivor, LLC, owner, for a zoning map amendment from A-1, Agricultural, to CRR, Conditional Rural Residential, for a five (5) acre portion of Tax Parcel 20-23. The property is located on the west side of Wakefield Road (Rt. 628) approximately 5,200 feet north of its intersection with Urquhart Quarter Road (Rt. 607). The property is in the Berlin-Ivor Voting and Magisterial Districts. At its August 10, 2017 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the conditional zoning map amendment. The notice of public hearing was published in the Tidewater News on September 10 and September 17, 2017 and all adjacent landowners were notified by first class mail as required by law. After conclusion of tonight's public hearing, the Board of Supervisors will consider the comments offered this evening and will proceed to approve, deny or defer action on the proposed zoning map amendment. Again, Mrs. Lewis will provide some introductory remarks, after which, interested parties are invited to come forward and express their views.

Richard Railey states Mr. Chairman, by way of disclaimer, I am not disqualifying myself, but you need to know that my law firm represents Mr. Clarke from time to time. Not on this matter.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you sir.

Beth Lewis states this is a request for a zoning map amendment to CRR. This was a process that was set in place by the zoning ordinance of 2007 to permit allow property owners to create buildable lots in agricultural property. This property as a whole contains 208.75 acres. That would permit the creation of up to five residential lots. At least one acre in size, no more than five acres in size, with the remainder staying in agricultural zoning. This case, Mr. Clarke has requested to create one four and half to five acre lot, near the northern end of the property, depending on where it will perk to find a suitable septic system. The Planning Commission had a public hearing. There was one speaker that spoke in opposition due to the loss of farm land. That is always a concern when owners want to take farm land and turn it into residential use. I had a phone call earlier in the week from a property owner that had the same concern. There was another speaker at the public hearing that just had questions about the conditional rural residential zoning process. Mr. Clarke has proffered the traditional proper amount of \$2,360, which would be paid at the time the building permit is sought. It would be, whoever buys the lot, Mr. Clarke would pay that when they get the building permit. Mr. Clarke is here, as well as his representative, Cass Camp if you have any questions.

Chairman Jones states thank you Mrs. Lewis. Any Board member have any questions. This is now a public hearing. Is there anyone for or against this application?

Cass Camp states Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I am Cass Camp. I am the surveyor involved with the request. I would just like to say a few things about the property. I know that it is farmland and that is a big concern to farmers. But this particular land is, in my opinion, it is not the best crops out there. It is not the best land that you are going to see. Also, in the surrounding area, it is a consistent use of the property. Other properties around here are consistent with what we are asking at this time. Other than that, if you have any questions, then I will be glad to answer them.

Chairman Jones states any Board member have any questions.

Supervisor West states I know its location. I know what five acres, roughly, of a 208 acre farm. Right up front I will let you know that I feel that a person who owns the property of that size can use it for residential development, or a piece of it.

Cass Camp states and I will tell you that it is kind of up on the side of the farm. It is not like it is in the middle of the farm.

Supervisor West states so it will not create a problem for anyone.

Chairman Jones states thank you Mr. Camp. Anyone else? Public hearing now closed. Alright, what say you Board?

Supervisor West states well, Mr. Chairman, this is in Berlin/Ivor and guys I will not speak for you, but I will recommend that we approve this based on one, the recommendation by the Planning Commission, and two the conditional zoning map amendment should be made to this property. I would certainly recommend this and make the motion.

Chairman Jones states alright. Do I hear a second?

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 item d.

Michael Johnson states your fourth public hearing, Mr. Chairman, is held pursuant to Section 15.2-1427 and 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, to consider an application by Lloyd A. Applewhite, Jr., Gregory A. Applewhite, and Lloyd Applewhite Irrevocable Trust, to include Tax Parcels 59-37, 59-34& 35, and 74-5 in a Voluntary Agriculture and Forestry District. The property is located on the south side of Indian Woods Trail (Rt. 652) approximately 5,930' west of its intersection with Indian Town Road (Rt. 651). The property is in the Capron Voting and Magisterial Districts. At its August 10, 2017 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the voluntary agricultural and forestal district. The notice of public hearing was published in the Tidewater News on September 10 and September 17, 2017 and all adjacent landowners were notified by first class mail as required by law. After conclusion of tonight's public hearing, the Board of Supervisors will consider the comments offered this evening and will proceed to approve, deny or defer action on the proposed district. Again, Mrs. Lewis will provide some introductory remarks, after which interested parties are invited to come forward and express their views.

Beth Lewis states this is your very first for voluntary agricultural and forestal district. This was approved, as you remember, in June. The applications had been submitted ahead of time. The Applewhite's are the first property that is going through. Voluntary Ag and Forestal district has to start with a core of 200 acres. This is 214.35 acres in one contiguous piece of property and is owned by one family. They have owned and operated it as Ag and Forestry land for approximately 100 years. Three household and four generations live on this property. As you recall, in subsequent years, should abutting property owners or owners within a mile of it apply, then they can apply to be satellite additions to this core. But this is the very first application, so this has been a process. It has taken years to get to this point. Mr. Applewhite is here if you have any questions. The Planning Commission discussed this twice. Once as the advisory board. And once as the Planning Commission, at which time they made a recommendation. And now you all are discussing it. So the abutting property owners got three notices about it in the mail, rather than the typical two. And when people call and ask what this is about, I always remind them to look at the bottom of the notice, that they will get two more notices on this. Because they keep getting what looks like the same thing in the mail and they wonder what is going on. So, Mr. Applewhite is here if you have any questions, but this is a good first step for Southampton County and the creation of these new districts. Over the next couple of months, there will be five or six more districts, containing approximately 20,000 acres when this gets done. 80 to 100 individual tax parcels, but end up being about 20,000 acres. At their last meeting, the Planning Commission looked at one that was way up Crumpler Road and the farthest north west part of the county and one that was way down on Porterhouse Road the farthest south west part of the county. So they are spread all over the county. So, Mr. Applewhite is kind of in the middle. Not too far from the interchange where the Middle School and High School are. I will be glad to answer any questions.

Chairman Jones states alright, any questions?

Supervisor West states Mrs. Lewis, would you explain Forest and Ag Districts? In a brief overview. The purpose for them.

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Beth Lewis states I should have brought the recording that I put on my phone. The Voluntary Ag and Forestal District is an agreement between the county and the property owner. The property owner agrees, in this case, for 10 years, that they will not do anything but Ag and forestry on their property. And the county agrees that should Southampton County begin to extend utilities that they will not do it to these properties because that would encourage development. And should a nearby property owner want to develop something that is not compatible with Ag and forestry district. That this Board would take an extra hard look at it before they change the zoning to permit something that would impact the use of this property for agriculture and forestry. It is Southampton County's way and the Commonwealth of Virginia's way, since the 70's, of expressing the importance of agriculture and forestry in Southampton County.

Supervisor West states so it is a way to preserve agriculture as we know it in the county today. Keep it like we want to. And in the long run, it is an agreement.

Beth Lewis states yes sir. Ten years.

Supervisor West states and that tells you what we want to look at in certain areas. Right.

Beth Lewis states correct.

Supervisor West states and it has to come before this body to be approved. You are getting a lot of it. You said up to 20,000 acres.

Beth Lewis states it appears to be about 20,000 acres spread throughout the county.

Supervisor West states do you know how many, roughly, how many acres of farming land there are agriculture and/or forestry in Southampton.

Beth Lewis states Mr. Phillips knows.

Supervisor Porter states 100,000.

Supervisor Phillips states it is a little over 100,000 of row crop. 603 square miles.

Supervisor West states but there is 100,000 acres.

Beth Lewis states of row crop.

Supervisor West states of row crop. And we are talking about, perhaps, up to 20,000 acres.

Beth Lewis states that includes forestry as well.

Supervisor West states I got you. Thank you. Good job.

Beth Lewis states thank you. And Mr. Applewhite is here if you need him.

Chairman Jones alright. This is now a public hearing. Is there anyone for or against this application? Yes sir, come right up.

Ash Cutchins states I feel like a yoyo, up and down.

Chairman Jones states that is alright, keep on getting up.

Ash Cutchins states thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Ash Cutchins and I would like to congratulate the Applewhite's on this application. I am envious that I do not have adjacent property that I could join with them. I have a farm in Isle of Wight County and all the agriculture and forestry districts are too far away from me, so I cannot take advantage of it. I think it is an excellent idea and I look forward to speaking on behalf of every other applicant. I recommend you approve it. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you. Anyone else?

Supervisor West states come on up Allen. Let him come on up. Most of us have not seen him too much since high school.

Allen Applewhite states I am Allen Applewhite and I am representing myself, my son, Gregory, and my father's trust, L. A. Applewhite Trust. I want to tell you I thank you and I appreciate you putting this in because I am all in favor of saving agriculture and forestry lands. And that occupation is probably the oldest profession in the world. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you Mr. Applewhite. Anyone else? Alright, public hearing in now closed. What say you Board?

Supervisor Edwards states Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out, it took a long time coming. Actually, this process took almost 12 years. And I am happy that we have finally reached the end of the line. It took a lot of work and as Mr. West said, it has to come before us, but it has to pass three stages. Two with the Planning Commission and one with us. It is very well scrutinized before it gets here.

Chairman Jones states alright. Okay, what say the rest of you?

Supervisor West states whose district is it in?

Supervisor Phillips states mine. Mr. Chairman, it is with great pleasure that I have heard Mr. Applewhite talk about it, in the past, and his ties to this land. And we have, as Dr. Edwards said, spent a lot of time discussing this and I am glad to see we have finally brought it to the point where we can start reregistering these Ag and forestry districts. Do they sometimes name them? In Isle of Wight I have seen them. Allen, maybe we need to come up with a name for this.

Michael Johnson states the ordinance names it the Applewhite Agricultural and Forestal District.

Supervisor Phillips states okay, well there you go. The first in Southampton County. With pleasure I make a motion we approve.

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 alright. Go to item e.

Michael Johnson states your fifth and final advertised public hearing, Mr. Chairman, is held pursuant to Section 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 13 of the Southampton County Code by revising the eligibility criteria and exemption percentage schedule for the solid waste management fee. Among other things, the proposed amendments broaden the eligibility criteria to include households with a total combined household income from all sources of less than \$40,300.99 and a net combined financial worth for all household residents of less than \$168,501.00. The exemption percentage schedule ranges from

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0% to 100% based upon household income. The notice of public hearing was published in the Tidewater News on September 10 and September 17, 2017. After conclusion of tonight's public hearing, the Board will consider the comments offered this evening and will proceed to approve, deny or defer action on the proposed ordinance.

Chairman Jones states alright. This is now a public hearing. Is there anyone for or against this application? Come right up to the podium please.

Carol Keeter states I do not understand this. My name is Carol Keeter and I live on Camp Parkway. Does this include people that are 100% disabled and still live at home, but have caretakers? Maybe not part of the family, but helping. And veterans? I am a 100% disabled vet. I have problems. I do not know what I am entitled to. I have inquired several places and I cannot get anything telling me what I am entitled to. I do have to say that my income is above that. And also that if, bringing up the waste thing. The containers where I live and a lot of the containers in the county, the truck comes around and picks up these containers, many of the residents have ditches on each side. In fact, my mail carrier has to stop on the highway to put mail in my mailbox because of the embankments where I am at. And plus, my residence is approximately two tenths of a mile off the road. I have trouble walking 200 yards. Anyway, I thought I would bring that up. I do not know what the exemption is.

Michael Johnson states to answer your question, Mr. Keeter, the ordinance does provide that households that are occupied by any veteran and has been rated by the US Department of Veteran Affairs for success of agency pursuant to federal law that have 100% surface connected total disability are eligible, but the income requirements still count. So if you are over that income it counts.

Carol Keeter states where can I find something that is published for the entitlements for veterans, veteran's care, or the disabled? I cannot find anything.

Michael Johnson states I can put you in contact with the Veterans Affairs person.

Carol Keeter states I appreciate it.

Chairman Jones states okay. Anyone else? This public hearing is now closed. What say you Board?

Supervisor West states I think, Mr. Johnson, haven't we have had a discussion concerning an alignment with our neighbors on this thing.

Supervisor Phillips states Isle of Wight County.

Michael Johnson states if you remember, you amended the ordinance for the real estate tax exemption program back several months ago. This ordinance with these amendments would mirror the same financial criteria.

Supervisor West states so it is finishing up the housework.

Richard Railey states it is house cleaning.

Supervisor Porter states it synchronizes the two.

Supervisor West states but there are specifics, percentages, maybe you can see the income and the requirement minimum is here, instead of a hundred percent, seventy, sixty, maybe ten. It will be some kind of percentage, I do not know. But the bottom line is he can help you out and set you up with the right person and be glad to do it. But we are doing a little cleaning up.

Supervisor Porter states I motion that we adopt this.

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 alright. Go to number 11.

Michael Johnson states Mr. Chairman, as discussed last month, the Board agreed to receive public comment on the proposed agreement on this matter before taking any action.

Chairman Jones states alright.

Supervisor West states are we going to redo a video. Is that necessary, do you think? Has that changed any from last month?

Michael Johnson states no.

Chairman Jones states alright. At this time you can come up here if you wish.

Ash Cutchins states thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Ash Cutchins and I live on Darden Point Road. By now, I am sure that you have realized that my earlier request for \$86.00 to support the shortfall of my private business venture was in jest. I am not asking for any financial assistance for my private business. As far as I know, the Cypress Cove Country Club is a private enterprise. Which happens to be located in the county and is a very nice place. I have dined there and attended many meetings since I was a teenager. I used to go to tennis matches there when several of my friends played tennis. The building is lovely. I do not play golf, but I suspect the golf course is very nice. It appears to be well maintained. However, I suspect that it exists primarily for its members. I am not one of those members. But I am a tax paying county resident. I appreciate Mr. Rose's passionate plea earlier tonight, I believe he is still here. He made some good points about the utilization for the youth. But I do not think the taxpayers should be asked to support any private enterprise, especially one which is mostly social in nature. If the members are short of funds, then I suggest they do what many other local groups do, including my church, and that is have bake sales, car washes, yard sales, or similar fundraising activities to cover their shortage. I visualize Mr. Porter washing my car. Even if you allow the use of the county, who would like to play golf there, free access, and even though I have friends that work there, I do not feel that the taxpayers should be financially burdened with supporting the Country Club. Thank you.

John Burchett states my name is John Burchett and I live in Sebrell. First, I offer no apologies for what I wrote in my letter to the editor. I am sorry that a couple of people misinterpreted what I said. But as far as what I said, I meant every word of it. I have got a list off the website of Cypress Cove, the Board of Directors. Barry, you used to be on the Board didn't you?

Supervisor Porter states I used to be years ago.

John Burchett states so you decide to get off before you take money out of my pocket. That is a good move. Smart. I know a lot of these people. I do not know all of them. But I do not see one of them that I can see that is really in need of assistance. I am not going to read this list. If you want to see it, it is on the website. Mr. Rose, I do appreciate what they have done for our children. But, they are not in the ballpark by themselves. Civic clubs, hunt clubs, you name it, help our children. Praise the Lord. I want to tell you a real quick story, before my time runs out, I hope. Fifteen years ago, Davis Ridley Hunt Club was facing what Cypress Cove faces right now. Richard Railey will tell you. Our dues were going up because the landowners were demanding more money for their land. We were losing members because the dues were getting so high. So we started doing fund raisers. First was the fair. Then barbeques, but we had a good product that

people wanted. We worked hard. We rolled up our sleeves to save our hobby. Our love of the sport of hunting. I would suggest like Ash did, that if you want to save your sport, then go to work. I do not see any of these people on this list as the Board of Directors looking to wash my car, like Ash said. Do not try and take the money out of my pocket. One more thing, before I quickly close is, if you recall, at the budget hearing, I specifically questioned this \$30,000 for a potential shared parks and recreation opportunity with the City of Franklin. Nobody had anything to say about it. And you put it in the budget. There is something crooked going on here folks. You knew what that money was going for, but you did not tell us. While you were denying enough money for five teachers, and teacher raises. But you are going to put \$30,000 in there to bail out somebody that needs to take care of their own business. Thank you.

Earva Lee Jones Sumblin states good evening to the Chairman and to the Board. My name is Earva Lee Jones Sumblin. I live on Joyner's Bridge Road in Southampton County. And of course, Mr. Porter is my supervisor. I am standing here, not only for myself, but for quite a few of the constituents of Southampton County. We are in direct opposition to this suggestion of spending \$30,000 to a private facility. One of the first things that caught my eye was that in the comprehensive plan of parks and recreation that was composed by Southampton County officials in 2008, listed the various public recreation facilities that we had available in Southampton County and as well as the City of Franklin. It also lifted up for information purposes that you did have opportunities to have recreation at the Country Club, but it did not specify that the Country Club was part of the comprehensive plan for the parks and recreations in the County of Southampton. For that reason alone, I do not think that you are at the stature to make a blanket decision to give \$30,000 of the tax payers' money to a privately funded event. Secondly, I do thank Mr. Rose for his efforts, he has been in sports all of his life and has done a job well done at home, as well as abroad. However, if the schools would like to partner with the Country Club for its amenities, then I would suggest that the schools and the Country Club make some type of arrangements to partner. In addition to that, when I looked at the reports that were submitted to the Board in reference to the consideration and the reason why the Board should support this, one word I would like you to define is, placeholder. Which is in parenthesis. And you know that when you put something in parenthesis it means emphasis and another thing I would like you to address is, what is a round, as it relates to golf. That is another thing. In addition to fundraisers being held there, many clubs, many auxiliaries all across the country holds financial fund raisers. Those are annual events, they can be quarterly events, but what price are you asking the citizens to bear, just to hold a fund raiser for maybe two or three thousand dollars. I do not think that it is an equal share. Also, if they are going to hold financial raising opportunities, then maybe they should do what the workforce does. They pay a fee to use the building. Why not pay a fee to the Country Club to use its facilities and you do not have to be a member because it is just a one-time event.

Chairman Jones states Mrs. Sumblin, your time is up.

Earva Lee Jones Sumblin states okay. I am thankful for that. In closing, I would like those questions that I asked, placeholders and round, to be defined. And I hope that you have not made your minds up already. I do trust that you will listen to us. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you. Anyone else?

Linda Vick states Mr. Jones, Chairman, Board members, tax payers of Southampton County. My name is Linda Vick and I am from Newsoms district. It is my understanding that the Board of Supervisors has a new line item in our budget for parks and recreation. I have done a great deal of research into things that effect this one item. The hand out that I am giving you at this point, reflects the population of Southampton County according to the census of the year 2016. We have 18,242 people. We may add a few or deduct a few. This population is divided into seven districts. Which each of you represent each district. With a range of 2,319 in the Boykins/ Branchville district. To 2,984 people in the Ivor district. Each district has a park or a ball field that services each locality. I am going to talk about Newsoms numbers first. There are six ball team, boys and girls, from the age of 4 years of age to 16 years of age. Qualifications, show up, on time and want to play ball. Newsoms has approximately 150 children that practice and play ball in Newsoms each week for months in the summer and spring. It goes on all year long sometimes when they are in tournaments. And that involves two parents usually. And two grandparents that go see these children play. So we are talking about six to seven hundred people coming to Newsoms each week to participate in each activity. Approximately fifty men and women volunteer their time to coach, umpire, maintain the field, and man the concession stand. So that these children can have

recreation. Multiply that number by four other districts, some use the fields jointly. Capron and Drewryville use a field together, I think. And Courtland and Sebrell do. We have six to seven hundred children taking part in the little league ball association. Plus an average of 3,200 people throughout the county. Using these ball fields each week. The men and women who volunteer their time for this endeavor are to be commended. They are not paid. This is strictly volunteer. I understand that some of these people have been volunteering for more than twenty five years. It takes between eight and ten thousand dollars, per location, to play on these ball fields. The parents in each locality has fund raisers and each child pays \$85 to play. What happens if a child does not have the money to pay? They let him play anyway. I understand a handicap child wanted to play last year from one of the districts. And this was allowed. And the child was given a trophy from the association. Can you imagine the thrill for that child or his parents? The county does not support these teams in any way. The county does not give money for the location, equipment, replacement, or to help maintain sites. It is my opinion that if the county has \$30,000 in the treasury to give away, then it should be divided into seven ways and give each locality \$4,285.72 to help maintain these parks and fields and buy equipment for these children.

Chairman Jones states Mrs. Vick, your time is up.

Linda Vick states well I am about half through. I do have another handout that I want to give, that compares Southampton County to Johnston County in North Carolina. It will give you all insight on the industries and what they require on business inquiries. Also, Mr. Jones I know that I am running over, I am a member of the Country Club. I am a taxpayer of Southampton County and I do not want my tax money going to the Country Club.

Chairman Jones states thank you.

Ginna Cutchin states good evening. I am Ginna Cutchin and I live at 29018 Darden Point Road in Courtland in the Jerusalem district. I want to speak against the agreement to give to recreational golf services. For one thing, it sets a poor precedent for the Board, donating money to a private group. And two, you are already giving the Country Club a tax break, \$10,000, I think. And I think that it is yearly. Is this correct?

Supervisor Porter states would you hold on a minute. That is a misconception. This Board did not give the Country Club any break. The facts are that this is something that was spread on purpose by one Board member. What happened was, the Country Club discovered that their assessment was twice what it should have been. They petitioned the court for relief, according to the Virginia ordinance, the laws of Virginia. The court awarded them relief, based on the information they received, plus the concurrence of our appraiser. Our appraiser agreed to the court settlement. Our only remedy would have been to litigate it. Since our appraiser agreed with the court awarding the relief, we were advised by our attorney that we would never win the case and would be wasting tax payers money in a frivolous law suit. We have already done that once this year. We decided not to do that again. That was before this, but anyway. We did not think it was a good use of taxpayer money to tell the court that they were wrong. So let us get that in the open. That is the facts. Somebody can spin it anyway they want to, but this Board never voted to give any special favor to anybody. We just decided not to appeal the judge's decision.

Ginna Cutchin states okay. Thank you. I appreciate you straightening that out. I think the Board offering to pay for upkeep on a golf course or for any other reason, for schools or anything else, is not acceptable. And if you do choose to approve this, then I hope it will be assessed against the school budget and not the general fund. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states anyone else?

Jimmy Lee states Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, county officials, my name is Jimmy Lee. I am in Dr. Alan Edwards's district. I was an active member in the Country Club, but I am not currently an active member, but I am a stock holder. So I feel like I am not trying to push my own personal agenda, but I urge the Board to vote against this measure because I think you are setting a precedence that is going to be detrimental and may open you up to legal action. If the Cypress Cove Country Club is private business, then you certainly are opening yourselves up for other businesses to ask for the same treatment. If the Cypress Cove Country Club is a club, then I know of a hundred hunt clubs and other clubs that want the same treatment. This is a very slippery slope. Tax dollars are tight. I know you have heard this before, but people in the county feel like

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we are taxed to death. And I hope our local government will take a different direction than our federal government. We just cannot stand any more debt. And I urge you to respectfully deny this because I think you are opening up a can of worms that can come back and bite you. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you. Anyone else?

Jerry Grizzard states Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I thank you for your service to the county. You have a tough job. I know listening tonight, that you cannot please all of the people all of the time. I want to speak in favor of it. I am Jerry Grizzard. I live in Franklin and own a farm in Southampton. It has been in my family since 1944. So we have paid a few taxes over the years. I returned to the area three years ago. I was gone for about forty years because of my work. And I can tell you that the availability of a golf course was one of the main reasons that I returned here. I think other retirees would come back here as well because of that. Since I got back here, I wanted to get involved in the community, like other people would. I serve on the Board of the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Downtown Franklin Association. I am on the Communication Committee of Economic Development, and I am Vice-President of the Country Club. I wanted to get involved and I did get involved. And I think that you can see that other people will come back here and retire. It is an attractive thing for people to come back to. I would like to point out that the club is an asset. I am not serving under an official capacity, but it is an asset to our area. No one is sure how much of an asset it is. It did attract me and I am confident it will attract other retirees to come back here to the community. Franklin has already approved this agreement by a six to one vote. I think it shows that they realize the importance of recreation in the area. Of course their vote was six to one in favor of it, but it is contingent upon your approval of it here tonight. The city does not receive any direct tax dollars, whereas Southampton County gets real estate from the Country Club, they get personal property from the Country Club, they get food tax from the Country Club. And I am sure the values of the properties surrounding the Country Club are appraised higher, so you get more taxes there as well. I have not studied that, but I feel quite sure that some of them are because of the Country Club. We have had a lot of member that are talking about fund raisers. We have had quite a few fund raisers to raise money. We have also had members to volunteer to work out there. Picking up limbs, cutting grass, we have had members step up and give money to the Country Club. He have had farmers that have put chemicals out there to bring their equipment out there to work. So we have done a lot of things to try to keep the Country Club going. We have also lowered one of our fees to \$77 a month for first responders, police, fire, rescue, and teachers. All to be able to come out there and play. I understand why some are against this because they see no direct value for them. I can say I get no direct value for the money going to the schools, as I have no children in school. But I recognize the value of the school system in this area and all areas. I do not receive any direct benefit from it. The tax dollars that we pay, do not always give us direct benefit. Speaking of benefits, we have been home to the golf teams, Franklin, Southampton, Southampton Academy, for over fifty years. And for the most part, at no expense to the county. I think in the last couple of years, they have contributed about \$500 towards that venture.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Grizzard, you have gone over your time.

Jerry Grizzard states okay. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you. Anyone else?

Carolyn Modlin states I am Carolyn Modlin from the Boykins district. I will keep my comments very brief. I have set through of many of your meetings and work sessions as you dealt with the budget. Whether it was for the schools, the sheriff's office, fire departments, etc., trying to determine how to allocate the money in the fairest way possible. I have listened to what people have said and I have done some reading. I had one of those children on the golf team that practiced at the Country Club. But the golf team was very small and it was one of the many sports in Southampton. I have another child that participated in other sports. My children were fortunate in that they had parents that were able to take them to practice and to participate in sports. Not every child can get to the Country Club to practice golf. Many of our children learn sportsmanship, in their local areas, through football, baseball, softball, basketball. These are assessable sports to all children. For many of our children, they are the sports that they participate in at the schools. Recreation is important for all children. If the money that has been set aside for recreation and parks, that \$30,000, were divided, it would benefit many many more children than just those that are able to go to the Country Club and play golf. I have nothing against golf. I have

a son that loves it and has been playing since he was seven years old. It is wonderful. But we need to look at what is equitable. So what I am asking you to do, is to consider all of the children in the county and what is best for them.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you. Anyone else?

David Edwards states thank you Mr. Chairman. My name is David Edwards. I am a member of the Country Club. I am on the Board of Directors, on the second Board. Probably going to go over my three minutes. I am for this. I am a taxpayer. When we first started talking about this, I was on the borderline. Then I got to looking. This is a contract with the county for every citizen in the county. We will open up doors and say please come and play golf at a reduced rate. We have tried everything to raise money. I want to say something about some of the kids that come through there. We have got three kids at the University of Chowan. The last two years out there, they won two district champions out there. So it is good for the kids. I heard a lot about the balls, softball. My kids come up through Courtland. Courtland baseball field is named for my Daddy. I am very proud of my sister for donating the land up there. We all need some help. We are struggling, just like everybody else is struggling. But as a taxpayer, I pay a lot of taxes. Right many taxes. I think this averages about to about \$3 per person. I am paying for schools, my kids do not go to. I am paying for a sewer plant that I do not use. I complain about that, but I think that this would be a good opportunity for the county. We could try one year. If it does not work, then the next year, you know. This is a one-time thing. We are asking for your help. We are opening our doors. We already open our doors to all the schools. Mr. Rose was great with what he said. I wish I was a better speaker than what I am. I really appreciate the help. We want to open our doors up to all of Southampton County to come out to play. Try to play. Come out. Play a round of golf. A round of golf is 18 holes. So I just ask for your support.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you. Anyone else?

Cindy Moore states good evening Mr. Jones, Board of Supervisors, my name is Cindy Moore. I was not planning on coming up here tonight, but Mr. Grizzard did not get to finish, so I am finishing it for him. I do not know if you have heard of the First Tee. It is a wonderful program for the youngsters ages six to ten, members or nonmembers, kids from anywhere come to this First Tee program at the golf course. It teaches them honesty, manners, integrity. I have witnessed it. It is a wonderful program for the youth of our area. Other benefits are, the club is a beautiful place for anyone that has been there, where residents, not just club members, anyone can host weddings, reunions, receptions, other activities, dances, any type of party, that people want to have at the club, not just members, it is for everyone. I know there are not too many places in this area that you can do that today. This agreement would also provide access to all in the community for only \$10 for a round of golf, instead of a lot of people traveling out of the area. Whether you are a member or not a member, anyone can come out there and anyone can eat at the restaurant. Anyone can play golf. Anyone that is not a member can do anything that anyone that is a member of the Country Club can. I am obviously for this. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you very much. Anyone else?

Carol Keeter states I am Carol Keeter and I am a member of the Country Club. I am against the Board of Supervisors of making a decision that is detrimental to me and my taxes. Changing the zoning of the thing. I am against for the tax money for the club. Being a member of the club, I go out there quite often. The members do not participate in the club part. And the golf, I used to love to play, I am unable to play now. A membership, encourages people to come and they are not there. At times there are just four, six, or eight of us. I support the club quite a bit. So I am against it. Because I want my tax bill to be the same as it was before the decision on the zoning. I am against this tax money going to the club. The members need to participate more.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you. Anyone else?

Steve Griffith states gentlemen, my name is Steve Griffith and I am in the Drewryville district. I simply do not believe that we should be using our tax dollars earmarked for our youth to bail out any business. You have a business and you cannot pay your way, what happens. You go bankrupt. Or you put it a for sale sign on it. Perhaps the next people that purchase the place will have a better managerial staff and make it better. It is not up to us to bail them out. Or any business, with our tax dollars. I want to ask you, just like the gentleman said, if we do this, then what is going to

stop the next guy who gets in dire straits from coming here begging or asking for money. There is no stopping it. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright. Thank you. Anyone else?

Glenn Updike states I am Glenn Updike and as all of you know, I am vehemently opposed to it. It is ridiculous to take tax money and put it in private business. As people have already said, get off your cans and do your fundraisers. We out in the county have to supply the youth with recreation. I have several questions. One, why is membership dropping from the Country Club. They must be doing something wrong, or else they would be increasing in membership. Look back over the last ten years, how many executives and employees from these new businesses have joined the Country Club. I do not of any. I have not found the first one. Enviva, Severn Peanut Company, so on and so forth. I think that you all need to look at the internal make up of it. We have heard two different stories. This is not going to open up the whole Country Club to the citizens. You have got other amenities. This is just for the golf course. You are not going to allow us on the tennis court, swimming pools, or any other activities that are going on at the Country Club. This is a ridiculous way to run a business and have to ask the public to pay for it. Another thing I want to know, in the budget hearings and even before this meeting, besides last month, this was not brought before the Board. It was not discussed at the budget hearing about what this money was going to go for. It says recreation youth, youth programs. Golf course is not a youth program. If the Country Club wants to support the youth, then go out and raise the funds and provide free access to it. We cannot ask people in the county to provide the golf course with free access. And deny 10,000 other youths of all the other recreation. It just makes you sick to the stomach.

Chairman Jones states anyone else? Alright. Public comment period is now closed. Mr. Johnson go ahead.

Michael Johnson states so as we talked about last month, Mr. Chairman, 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. You have a copy in your packages of the presentation from last month 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 this agreement, subject to the County's favorable consideration.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. West.

Supervisor West states frequently we vote for a budget and we have a very limited number of people that participate with us and go through the process or even attend the meetings. If you speak about hunting in the county or about dogs, or restricting the movement of that dog, then we could fill up Southampton High School Auditorium. We are not dealing with that. Tonight I am dealing with a subject that I like. I like playing golf. You heard me say it last month that I would prefer to pay Cypress Cove, rather than going to the City of Suffolk. I try to shop at Walmart and the gas stations in Southampton County, to spend my dollars. I think that Cypress Cove, I am not speaking for the Country Club, per say, I am speaking for the golf course itself. Which is the entity that is in desperate and dire need, in terms of keeping the course open. I understand, and correct me if I am wrong, is about \$20,000 a year in taxes. Or somewhere in that neighborhood, is that correct. And we are talking about putting \$30,000 in it. Well if it closes, the properties along there, I have never hit a ball into anyone's yard, Larry, I tried a time or two, but I have never done it yet. With that being said, those people are going to lose property value because I am afraid the club will close. Is it something that the public should pay for? I am going to say yes. And the reason why is, that I think it is a business that is important. Like one of you just said about declining numbers. Church numbers are declining. Why? That really has nothing to do about my comment. I forgot what my overall comment was going for. But that being said, there are things that we look at in the county that help us bring businesses here. Mr. Updike, I do not know where you got your numbers from. People joining, the president of this or that, I do not know. You sited that. But that being said, I am in favor of it. I feel it is an important entity in the county. I think it

attracts people. I agree with Mr. Grizzard, it brings people here to the county. My next location, I am still going to try and play. If the course closes, then so be it. I will go to another place. And I will do that. I just think that it is a one year, one time, let's do it, let's try. I do agree that we need more money for schools and recreation. I think that we can look at the budget that we will start to look at in the first of the year for the four or five little league baseball, athletic associations. Sebrell, Ivor, and so forth. Look at increasing that amount next year. I would like to see that. I would vote for doing that. I do not hunt. So I reckon I am a dummy in the county. I do not drink any alcohol and I have never drunk any. And regardless of what the author of the letter to the editor in the paper said, it is not a bunch of old men boozing it because this old man has never boozed it.

John Burchett states I am not sorry for what I said.

Chairman Jones states alright. Mr. Porter, go ahead.

Supervisor Porter states when I think about the prospect of losing an asset, and it is an asset, Cypress Cove, it make me sad. It makes me sad that people cannot see the same things that I see. I understand that. It also makes me sad that Mr. Burchett did write a letter and he quoted me in it. I would like to ask him a question. Have you ever seen me drink anything stronger than a coca cola?

John Burchett states I do not have any idea of what you are talking about.

Supervisor Porter states I think that in your letter, you accused me and a bunch of old people of a situation where we would sit around, drink, and play golf.

John Burchett states well you asked me a question. I am going to ask you one. Why do you not let us come in and sit at the bar with you, or play tennis.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Burchett, it is not your turn. Mr. Porter go ahead.

Supervisor Porter states what I want everyone to understand, there is a reason that the restaurant is not in this agreement. It is not that you cannot go there and eat. You can go there and eat. Mr. Cutchins has been there to eat.

Ash Cutchins states yes I have and it was very enjoyable.

Supervisor Porter states it is not that you cannot go there. The issue is, we opened the restaurant to the public two years ago. Within 30 days, there was an ABC agent in the building ready to shut us down. It is not that we do not want you to eat there. The requirements of Virginia ABC is that you have to be either a member or a guest of a member. If you want to eat at the Country Club, then what they do is try and find a member to sponsor you, so they can meet the Alcohol and Beverage Control regulations. It has nothing to do with excluding anybody. They would prefer to have anybody that wants to. And if you want to go to the restaurant, then I would be more than happy to have you as my guest anytime. The issue I want you to understand is, we are talking about survival. If you do not think that this is an asset to the county, then you are wrong. And you are wrong because I am a member. I very seldom go there. I cannot play golf right now because of my health. I have played golf for years, but I am still paying my dues. I am paying my dues not for the benefits that I get, I pay because I want to support it and help make it successful. There are a lot of people that do not share that same philosophy. I think that there are a lot of people that play golf in our community that would be happy to play at a reasonable cost. I think that this provides an opportunity. People say, well we are subsidizing, the members. And I am looking at someone like myself. I pay roughly \$3,000 a year. I do not play golf. And even if I did still play, I would have to pay \$15 anyway. But the issue is, who is subsidizing who. I want to invite you to come and play for \$25 and have a cart. And it costs me \$500 a round to play. Why do I do that? It is not because I want you to play cheaply. It is because I do not want to see this club die. And that is the only reason that I am still a member. I do not need this club. Most of the forty remaining full time members, and there are different categories, you can look it up on the website. They do not need this club. They are dedicated to try and make sure it survives. If you go out there, a lot of times you will see 65 year old people cutting grass and pulling weeds and doing that kind of stuff. They are trying to make it work. They do not want to see it go away. But these 65 year old people, in ten years, they are not going to be there. I am not optimistic that I will be there

in ten years. Do you really think it is a good idea for the golf course to go away? You think it will not affect the property values around it? You are going to lose many times, \$30,000 in lost taxes and decreased assessments of properties in Scottswood and along Country Club Road. You know that there is a premium on some of those houses because there is golf course there. That is just the way it is. It is not a black and white issue that we are taking money from the tax payer and not getting something for it. If that club goes under, then there is going to be a significant economic impact on your tax payers. Your taxes will be going up. They are not going down. I support with everything that I can. I think that it is the right thing to do.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Faison. Please sir. Everybody has had a chance to comment. Right now it is our turn to comment. Let us finish this first. If you do not get your answer, then you can talk to Mr. Porter. Alright, Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Faison states okay. I have been listening to everyone very attentively. One thing that came up is the question of whether we should support a private business. That is something that really does not sound so good when you are talking about support on a private business. Others may want to follow suit. I think we need to look at a lot of things with this. The Country Club is asking for \$30,000. According to Mr. Johnson, they pay \$20,000 in taxes. So that means without the Country Club there will be \$20,000 that we would not get. So we are talking about \$10,000. Okay. Now there has to be food taxes and other related things that come into the county because the Country Club exists. I did not play golf, but I think that was because when I was a kid there was nowhere for me to play. But now everybody in the county can go out to this golf course here. So I am looking at this. Although, I am not a member of the Country Club, I have always considered it an asset to the county. With the taxes that it brings in and the opportunities that it gives people and from the contract that they are talking about. They are talking about making it more accessible to more people. I think that could certainly be significant. This is on a yearly basis. I would be willing to try it for one year. Now if after that one year, there is no indication that this is a viable project, a viable plan, then I will certainly have to reconsider it at the time. But I do not think that a thirty dollar investment is too much for us to put toward the survival of this institution.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Cook.

Supervisor Cook states I have listened to both sides of this. In my community and here too. I appreciate Mr. Rose, because that is something that I had forgotten about. People say well have bake sales and whatever; those golf tournaments for schools and charities. They do not raise \$150 or \$500, they are in the thousands of dollars. It is amazing what people will do to play golf for charity. It is an asset to the county. Everybody can say what they want to, but they cannot deny that. I would be inclined to vote with Mr. Faison. For one year, I do not want to see it go under. I am not a member, but I have spent a lot of time over there working at the golf tournaments. I do not play golf. I have worked over there and helped charitable organizations put on tournaments. I see the good it has done. I would vote with Mr. Faison.

Chairman Jones states okay. Dr. Edwards.

Supervisor Edwards states I have listened to both sides on this. I have received a lot of calls. I have talked to a lot of people. I am fully convinced that the great majority of the taxpayers of Southampton County are not in favor of this. Therefore, I am not in favor of this. I am not in favor of bailing out a private institution here. I think this is a short shot in the arm. It is not going to work. It is going to have go on year, after year, after year. I do not want to get into that position. When we were in the budget hearing, my vision of the \$30,000 was for it to be shared throughout the county, not one institution. I do not think that it is fair that it is going to one place. I think that is extremely selfish if this Board wants to vote on that to go to one place. The people of the county have to have confidence in this Board and what we do with their tax money. The majority of the people are really concerned and are against this. And I think if this Board is foolish enough to do this, then this could be a great loss of confidence in us. I think that this is a foolish endeavor. It is a shot in the arm for one year and that is it. That it is not going to work. It is going to come back next year and want the same thing or more. This is not going to solve the problem. People paying \$25 to come over there, add it up. If a hundred people come there on a Saturday, what is that \$2,500 bucks. That is not going to solve the problem. We are throwing away \$30,000 that in the budget hearing, maybe I was rooked. Maybe I was foolish enough to go along with it. I thought that was going to be shared with the county. And I am very upset that it is

not being shared with the rest of the kids in the county. Maybe Sebrell needs \$2,000 to help get their ball field, or somebody in Boykins, okay. But no, we are putting all in one pot and on one thing. It is short term. It will not work. If the Board wants to go with this, then I think it is extremely foolish. It is going to destroy what faith the county residents that pay taxes have in us in dealing with their money. Just think about it before you vote, what this is going to do because the majority of the people that I have talked to, hardly anybody, and I have received lots of phone calls, they are extremely upset about this. I think for this money to go to one place is not what I intended for, but evidently there were other people with other ideas for this \$30,000. I am not sure. I am not criticizing you, but I do not think that the Board mandated anybody to go to Franklin and make this deal. I think it was done on your own. I think this Board should have been aware of this and should have said yes or no for you to go look at this deal, but that is not what happened. So, I am adamantly against this and I am almost ashamed if this Board votes for this. I think we are betraying a taxpayer's trust. That is something that we need to consider. I do not think this is going to work. It is a short shot of B12 or something and it is not a long term solution. It is not going to work. For those reasons, I am very adamantly against it. I am glad that I can say that for the record.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states thank you, Mr. Chairman. First I would like to read some excerpts from an editorial in the Richmond Times Dispatch, Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Written by Walter E Williams, who is a Professor of Economics at George Mason University. The title is: Today's Values Show Contempt for the Founders. I am going to read a couple of excerpts. The largest threat to our prosperity is Government spending that far exceeds the authority and... This man is speaking of Federal. I think it applies to what we are talking about. Exceeds the authority and numerated in article one section eight of the US Constitution. Where do you think Congress gets the resources they are spending? That is, we are going to spend four trillion this year. Where does Congress get the resources for such spending? It is not the Tooth Fairy or Santa Clause. The only way Congress can give one American a dollar is to use threats, intimidation, and coercion. To confiscate that dollar from another American. Congress forcibly uses one American to serve the purpose of another American. We might ask ourselves what standards of morality justifies the forcible use of one American to serve the purposes of another American. By the way, this main quote, the forcible use of one person to serve the purposes of another is a fairly good working definition of slavery. We cannot blame politicians for the spending that places our nation in peril. Politicians are doing precisely what the American people elected them and put them in office to do. Namely to use the power of their office to take the rightful property of other Americans and deliver it to them. That means that if we are to save our nation from the economic and social chaos that awaits us, we the people must have a moral reawakening and see what is no less than legalized theft, take away from one American for the benefit of another. I consider the Golf Course an asset. And I hope at this point, if I have another couple of minutes, that I can offer something, maybe there is a compromise. \$60,000 will allow the Club to operate for one year. For the past five years my information says that the Club has operated at a negative cash flow to the amount of \$20,000 to \$70,000 per year. Speaking of rounds of golf, last year approximately 8,000 rounds of golf were played at Cypress Cove. I was told, it would approximately take 12,000 to make it a paying or to break even. I also add that 15,000 rounds would be required if the course became a public course. I have been told that foundations will not help. I would also offer this as a comment, the YMCA in Virginia Beach has a similar asset. They have a 9-hole golf course that they manage and run in Virginia Beach. What I am trying to do is offer alternative options, other than what we are proposing tonight. There are fund raising programs, Mr. Rose, thank you for your comments. This discussion though, may be a defining moment for the Country Club as to what happens to the Country Club. Does the community want a golf course? At this point, who is responsible for the outstanding debt at Cypress Cove Country Club? There is that debt. I am proposing that we continue this meeting, or this item on the agenda to study it further. It will give us an opportunity, possibly, to hear whether this becomes a public course, which I could better support. We can continue further discussion on this matter, and I believe instead of just continuing the situation, I believe it can be improved upon. There are certainly assets that will be affected by what we are considering, either by voting in favor of it or not, be it the real estate's assets of the homes that are on the golf course or the taxes that are paid by them. I, at this point, make a motion to table this for one month for further discussion.

Supervisor West states second.

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Chairman Jones states there has been a motion and properly second to table this, the golf course agreement for next month.

Supervisor Edwards states I agree with that too, but let me ask one question. What good are we going to be doing in this month?

Supervisor Porter states that is my question. What are we going to gain by delaying for one month?

Supervisor Phillips states it may take longer. I hope the course does not fail in the meantime. I think that there are people that are speaking about being able to use, it is a beautiful facility. You can have public meetings in there. I would say that Farm Bureau Ladies Committee had a meeting there three weeks ago for the whole Eastern district. I do not think golf is going to cure what we have here. I do not think that letting people play golf for \$25 with a golf cart is going to solve the problem. And I agree that we are going to simply throw \$30,000 at a problem and not solve the problem.

Supervisor Porter states I do not understand what you are trying to drive at. I am sorry. I just do not see what you are going to do in one or two months that is going to change the situation for them.

Supervisor Phillips states what we are getting ready to do will not be a positive for the golf course. I am saying that we are under no deadline, other than the golf course needs the money, obviously. I accept the fact that it is an asset. I think we are going about it the wrong way.

Supervisor Porter states I do not understand where you want to go with it. I am sorry.

Supervisor Phillips states I want to see if the Board of Directors of the golf course would consider what it would take to become a public course. Part of the people here have concerns that it is still a private course and it is a private business. Now, Suffolk has public golf courses that you can use. Let's find out if they are making money, is it costing them money? I do not think that we have enough information.

Supervisor Porter states some are making money and some are not making money. If you read the paper, Portsmouth is spending close to a million dollars a year supporting their golf courses.

Supervisor Phillips states I do not think that this county is in a position to support that.

Supervisor Porter states that is right. The issue that I am driving at here is, the problem with the golf course is that there is not enough play. What we are trying to do is to create an environment to encourage more play. In the meantime, we need a bridge to get more people to play. If more people are playing, then there is no need for money from the county. However, there has to be a bridge to get to that point where we have built up play. If the play does not build up in a year, like Mr. Faison said, then maybe that is a tougher decision then. But the whole thing that you have to be careful of, is within a year, to understand the implications of the golf course closing. The decision we have now is whether or not to try and find a way to prevent it from closing. If you do not care and if you are naïve enough to think that it closing will not have a negative impact on your tax rate, then let's close it. But it will have a negative impact on your tax rate if it closes. I think that what we need to be looking at is, the plan is to get more people to play golf. If that does not happen, then nothing can save it and we may as well close the doors of Southampton County. I hope not though.

Chairman Jones states alright. We have a motion and a second.

Supervisor Edwards states my question is, I guess he has already answered what we would look at next month.

Supervisor Phillips states hopefully we can have some contact with the Board and do some research. I think we are way out ahead of what our job as Supervisors to try and make this an opportunity to save this course. If you want to save the golf course, then I think there is a whole lot more research that needs to be done.

Supervisor Edwards states I agree with that and I think if we prove that we are acting like the Federal Government does. When there is a problem, they just throw some money at it and hope it goes away. I want to save the golf course, but it seems like you guys need to re-manage, renew something. This one shot and what happens if you come back next year and say you just need a little bit more, \$50,000 this next year. I just do not see and I am very disillusioned by the fact that this \$30,000 that we set aside for what I thought was to divide up in the county, is going to one source. That is not right. That is not right for the Country Club to ask for that and the rest of the county does without. It is not right, not morally or ethically right. It is just not right.

Supervisor Porter states and I do not agree with you because I think this facility is an asset for the whole county, not just as asset for the people who live along Country Club Road. It benefits everyone. You talk about the kids. I know of five kids that went to school on scholarships. They would have never had gone to college if they had not of played golf. They are not rich kids that their parents took them to the golf course. They are kids that went out to the golf course. They worked at the golf course for the right to play on the golf course. They played golf at Southampton High School. I am only talking about kids at Southampton. If you look at the Chowan golf team this year, three of the kids at Chowan are on scholarship from Southampton. They would not have gone to college if it had not been for golf. Okay? None of those live near the golf course. One was Boykins, I think, one was from Capron, and one from Sedley, I think.

Supervisor West states I will agree with what is being said. Specifically with you, Mr. Phillips, we do need some time added to this. I would like to see us reach out and get in touch with the Country Club people. And to reach out to the City of Franklin to see what their decision was about and what they considered. I still believe in making this a better place for us to live in Southampton County. Again, not everyone hunts, but it is an opportunity that is different and I realize that. But I do know that the City of Portsmouth puts a pile of money into the old Suffolk golf course. I am not advocating that. But I would like to know what the bottom of the pit looks like before I put the thirty grand in. Okay. That being said, we can do that. I am still going to give you a dollar tonight for that book. That being said, I think it would be wise to wait. Let us consider it for one more month. Mr. Johnson, could we prevail upon you sir, to get a little bit more information. I appreciate Mr. Rose and other ones that have made these comments. I have had seven contacts. Two favored it and five negative, but I talked two into being more on the positive. That is what I did. And that is the way it happened. Tonight I would like to see us wait another month, minimum and see what information is available to us and then make that decision.

Supervisor Edwards states more specifically I could say, more golfers is not going to solve your problem.

Supervisor West states you do not know that.

Supervisor Edwards states the money that you get from those people playing golf is not going to solve your problem. We are in a different society than we were when the Country Club was thriving. When Union Camp was here and people could afford to go. People who are on a fixed income cannot afford three or four hundred dollars a month. Our society is getting older and it is changing. Kids are not playing golf anymore. They are playing with computers and other type things. So, I just do not see that the Country Club tonight has put forth any information on how they are going to solve their problem. They are asking for a shot in the arm for one year and number of golf players is not going to do it. You are not giving me any information on how you are going to solve your internal problems because you have been losing money for the last, what, 5 years, was it?

Supervisor Phillips states between five and seven.

Supervisor Edwards states okay. You are not giving this Board any solution and for us to throw this money away, I think, is extremely foolish. I think that it is a violation of the taxpayer's trust. We need taxpayer trust, okay. We need those people out there to trust that we are not going to throw their money away and most of the people in this county and I talked to very few positive comments, say no.

Supervisor Porter states I talked to six people. Four were for it and two were against it. Okay. Ironically two were against it and one of them almost switched while we were talking because I asked them a question. They happen to live in Scottswood and I asked what is going to happen to your property when the golf course closes. And they said, I had not thought about that. We will not know if we are going to save it. I fear that we are going to lose an asset that is very important to the county. Franklin understands that.

Supervisor Edwards states so you do not think that it is going to work either. Is that what you are saying?

Supervisor Porter states I am saying if we do not move in the direction that has been posed we will lose it.

Supervisor Edwards states well why don't you go out and borrow \$60,000 then. Do you have that much confidence in yourself, then go ahead and lend the money.

Chairman Jones states alright gentlemen. We have a motion and a second on the floor.

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	NAY
Carl Faison	AYE

The motion carried.

Chairman Jones states alright. We will have a five minute break. We are now back in session. I would like to say something that I do not think that the rest of the group understands and the people who are here talking about the Country Club. Mr. West and Mr. Porter are on a committee to work together to see what we what we can work together on. We gave them that authority. That came up some kind of way of them talking about some other things in the county. Franklin is looking at it just like we are. The Country Club has not asked us for not one nickel. This is something that they are working with, the group that they are working with in Franklin to see if we can work together on everything in the county to save money. That is how this started. The Country Club has not asked us for a dime. So please do not go out and think that the Country Club has asked us for something. They did not go out there on their own, they are a part of this Board that we asked them to work with the City of Franklin as a part of this group.

Ash Cutchins states you should have announced that before the break because a lot of people left.

Chairman Jones states I should have, but it will get out there. I trust the newspaper will get that. I just want you to know that they did not go on their own. They did not go over to the Country Club and ask to see their books. They did not do that. This along with some other things that have some up and it has no bearing on anything else. It is shared services. That is what we are working on. But anyway, it is what is it and we are going on to 12.

Carol Keeter states are we still going to have open discussion? I have a comment.

Chairman Jones states no sir. All the open discussion is over with for now. I may let you comment at the end.

Michael Johnson states item 12, Mr. Chairman, this item has been carried over from your July and August meetings. We have talked about in the last couple of months, Reinvent Hampton Roads began in 2012 as a regional economic competitiveness initiative that is focused on generating high-paying, satisfying jobs in Hampton Roads. Jim Spore, the former City Manager for the City of Virginia Beach, became President and CEO in January 2016. They have taken the lead in developing a collaborative

approach to advancing the region's economic performance they are going to be the conduit for the GO VIRGINIA funds intended to encourage collaboration on economic development projects. Their recent analysis identified seven core areas that are prime for growth in the Hampton Roads economy: Advanced Manufacturing, Food & Beverage Manufacturing, Ship Building & Repair, Life Sciences, Port Operations (including logistics and warehousing), Business Services and Tourism/Recreation. Reinvent Hampton Roads has entered into partnership with GENEDGE, to provide the necessary resources - advisors, consultants, and mentors to companies within these sectors that are looking to grow. GENEDGE is offering its services at a deeply subsidized rate, with 25% coming from the company and 75% from Reinvent Hampton Roads/GENEDGE. Reinvent Hampton Roads is reaching out to Hampton Roads communities for assistance on 2 fronts. To identify potential companies in each community that might benefit from this program; and they have asked each community participating to help financially in a small, but meaningful way. They're asking for \$25,000 annually from communities with population larger than 150,000, \$10,000 from communities between 50,000 and 150,000 and \$5,000 from communities with less than 50,000 people. At this writing, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, York County and Franklin have all appropriated local funding in support of the project; Chesapeake appears likely. James City County, the City of Williamsburg and Accomack County have all requested additional information. Other communities are still in various stages of discussion. No one has said no at this point. Reinvent Hampton Roads is looking for a response by the end of this month. I put it back on your agenda for this month for further discussion.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. West.

Supervisor West states I was in favor of actually doing this last month, but we decided to seek more information. I do realize that we are a part of the greater Hampton Roads Community. I do know that business will come this way, if this is an avenue to bring them this way and I think that it can, then I see it as a very valuable thing for us and I would favor it.

Supervisor Edwards states let me just ask, Mr. Johnson if he knows. What businesses in our area have been identified that would benefit from this.

Michael Johnson states there are a number of businesses in our area that belong to those particular sectors. At this point, I do not think any of those have committed to participate in the program this year.

Supervisor Edwards states so we have no businesses that have been identified by this organization that they can help in our area.

Michael Johnson states today, no.

Chairman Jones states have we had any that did participate?

Michael Johnson states yes. We have a company in Southampton County, a food processor who is currently under contract with GENEDGE. They certainly could have benefitted from this program.

Supervisor Phillips states and they do advertising or what do they exactly do?

Michael Johnson states they help companies grow. They are consultants and advisors in helping companies scale up and grow.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Faison states I say we need every edge that we can possibly get. And to spend \$5,000, I think if we do this, it will be in our best interest that we participate.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Porter.

Supervisor Porter states I think that we need to participate. I think there are companies that we need to encourage to participate. There are some food processing companies that are looking to grow and are in talks with our economic development people. They are looking for bigger locations and I think they could benefit from this. For this amount of money, I think that we will get paid back.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Cook.

Supervisor Cook states I will agree. I think we do have some companies in this area that probably utilize them now and as we go forward, we get them interested in this opportunity.

Chairman Jones states alright, Dr. Edwards.

Supervisor Edwards states so my question is who is going to benefit in this county, the companies. And nobody seems to know. We are giving them \$5,000, but we do not know what we are going to get for it. For some reason these other locations have held out. I would like to find out what exactly they can tell us about what they can offer us. What companies in here are going to be benefitted? It seems like we do not have any right now.

Supervisor Porter states I want to use an analogy of insurance. If I pay \$500 a month for my health insurance, then I will pay \$6,000 a year, but I hope that I do not get sick. Then the next year maybe I will pay \$6,000 and have a \$100,000 medical bill. This is the kind of situation we are looking at. I believe that we have to make these companies aware of these opportunities and then they have to reach out and take advantage of it. I could name three or four right now, but I do not think I have their permission to mention those names. Because I know of companies that are looking to expand their businesses. I think they would be great candidates for this. Now, would they participate, maybe, maybe not, but if I shun this opportunity, then they will never have the opportunity to participate. And they will be stuck on their own forever.

Chairman Jones states alright, Mr. Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states I see that this company, Reinvent Hampton Roads began in 2012. Is there anything that we have, what have they done so far.

Supervisor Porter states this is not on this project, but one thing that I want to say, right now, they are working on a broad band project for the Hampton Roads area, that includes us, trying to get Go Virginia funding to help us to expand broadband in our county. That is one of the things. This is a much broader initiative than just than this one little project. They are the agents for Go Virginia funding. We cannot get Go Virginia funding for anything in our area without going through this group.

Supervisor Phillips states this is a pot in Virginia?

Supervisor Porter states this is a pot in Virginia.

Supervisor West states I remember a federal program called Bug's Island, what was it Mr. Johnson.

Supervisor Phillips states the electric company or something, telephone or something. The ones that were going to put in high speed internet.

Supervisor West states yes. That was the Federal Government's hand at doing things and this is private enterprise. This is people that are working in companies that we know. It keeps it at home. It is people interested in us, literally and physically.

Michael Johnson states to get back to the question that Supervisor Phillips asked, if you will look at page 12 of 15. There is a copy of a news article there that comes out of the Daily Press back several months ago. This sort of summarizes Reinvent Hampton Roads roll in the Go Virginia program. The Go Virginia program is a 35 million dollar statewide program. Reinvent Hampton Roads will be the conduit for that money to Hampton Roads.

Supervisor Phillips states okay. In other words, we are opening a new door.

Michael Johnson states this is all about access to new opportunity. If you do not want the opportunity, then do not participate.

Supervisor Phillips states we have never worked with this company before?

Michael Johnson states no, but neither has anyone else.

Supervisor Phillips states it is hard for anybody to say anything. We are either going to give them a try or we are not.

Chairman Jones alright. We need to make a decision.

Supervisor West states we hear constantly the expression, what new businesses have you brought. That is a constant. It is also a good question. I think this increases the opportunities. It is \$5,000. It is money. I am not saying that it has to be done, but I feel like it is an opportunity to get in on a ground base that will work, I hope.

Chairman Jones states alright. What do you all want to do with it? We had it last month and did not do anything.

Supervisor Faison states I move that we appropriate the \$5,000 to Reinvent Hampton Roads.

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 alright. Go to number 13.

Michael Johnson states number 13, Mr. Chairman, is consideration of bids for minor repairs on Southampton Courthouse. Notwithstanding the upcoming referendum on the future of the Courthouse, long-term improvements under either scenario, whether it is a yes or no vote, are not expected to be completed for another 30 to 36 months. The exterior woodwork of the building simply cannot wait that long before it receives some attention. Accordingly, we sought competitive bids to pressure wash, scrape, repair, caulk and paint specified exterior elements including columns, cupola, colonnade, trim and windows. The project was advertised locally in the *Tidewater News*, regionally in the *Richmond Times Dispatch*, and posted on the state procurement website, which is known as *eVA*. In response to our solicitation, four bids were received ranging from \$34,000 to \$75,816. The low bid was submitted by Empire Contracting Corporation from Powhatan, Virginia. The bid documents also included an added alternative to pressure-wash the synthetic stucco exterior around the 1996 addition, they propose to do for an additional \$1,000. Empire did received favorable references from Shenandoah County, they had painted their historic courthouse and for work at Fort A.P. Hill. Funding is included under our Building and Grounds maintenance budget. We are recommending with the award of the project to Empire Contracting for a lump sum of \$35,000.

Supervisor Faison states so moved.

Chairman Jones states okay. We need a second.

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 number 14.

Michael Johnson states number 14, Mr. Chairman, is a resolution for your consideration, which would declare eleven automobiles in the Sheriff's fleet as surplus property and further authorizing the Sheriff to dispose of them at an upcoming public auction. We have a list of each vehicle along with the mileage, the VIN number, and the license number. All of them have reached the end of their serviceable life.

Chairman Jones states alright gentlemen. You have surplus vehicles.

Supervisor Porter states I move that we declare the vehicles as surplus property.

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 alright. Go to miscellaneous, 15.

Michael Johnson states just a couple of items to report, Mr. Chairman. In response to the financial crisis in the City of Petersburg last year, the 2017 Virginia Acts of Assembly directed the Auditor of Public Accounts to establish a prioritized early warning system to identify possible local fiscal distress within localities across Virginia on an annual basis. The Auditor of Public Accounts review focuses on information related to the budget process, debt, borrowing, expenses and payables, revenues and receivables, staffing, and any other variables contributing to a locality's financial position. The result of this review is that each locality is given a score, called the Financial Assessment Model (or FAM) score. For fiscal year 2016, those localities that receive a FAM score of less than or equal to the 16% threshold set by the APA were notified and asked to decide whether to allow the APA to perform further review. Southampton County's FAM score for FY 2016 did not fall below the APA's threshold, therefore, there is no additional information or follow-up required for Southampton County at this time. A copy of the APA notice is attached. Item B, VASAP annual report, since 2008, Major Gene Drewery has represented Southampton County on the Southeastern Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP) Policy Board. He currently serves as Chairman and recently forwarded me the organization's annual report and asked that I share it with you all. A copy is attached for your information. Item C, at last month's meeting, Supervisor Phillips asked me to provide an updated report on odor problems that had plagued the environs of the Atlantic Waste Disposal landfill in Sussex County. I checked with

Jason Miller, VDEQ's Land Protection Program Manager at their Piedmont Regional Office in Richmond. He indicates that Waste Management has satisfactorily completed installations of the new synthetic cap and their leachate underdrain system for Phase IV of that landfill. Mr. Miller noted that while there's still a chance for occasional odor coming from that landfill, the number of complaints has dropped dramatically since that work had been completed. I did include in your agenda packages a copy of a presentation that Waste Management provided to the Prince George County Board of Supervisors back last February which provides a good overview of their mitigation efforts including that synthetic cap and that leachate underdrain. Item D is a copy of a newsletter from the Southampton County Department of Social Services that is just for your information. Item E is the miscellaneous notices, the environmental notices, the foreclosure notices, and notices from the State Corporation Commission. Item F is correspondence. Item G is articles of interest. I will be glad to answer any questions that you all may have about any of those.

Chairman Jones states any questions anyone? Any late arriving matters?

Michael Johnson states no sir.

Chairman Jones states any Board member have anything to bring before this Board?

Supervisor Phillips states Mr. Chairman, one thing. The food bank will be at Courtland Baptist Church tomorrow morning at 8:30am. We are short of volunteers. If you are available.

Ash Cutchins states people our age have two or three doctor's appointments almost every week.

Supervisor Phillips states two or three what?

Ash Cutchins states doctor's appointments. It is hard.

Supervisor Phillips states well if you can work it in, we have a bathroom you can get to close by. Thank you.

Chairman Jones states alright. Anything else. I will need a motion to continue this meeting until October 4, 2017, 5:30pm, at 24283 Old Bridge Road for a Joint Workshop with the Planning Commission to discuss the Utility Scale Solar Energy Project Ordinance.

Supervisor Edwards states so moved.

Supervisor Phillips states second.

Chairman Jones states it has been moved and properly seconded that we continue this meeting to October 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Good night.

There being no further business for tonight the meeting rested at 9:58 pm and will resume October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 5:30pm.

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Dallas O. Jones, Chairman

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Michael W. Johnson, Clerk