

COUNTY OF BATH, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
BATH COUNTY COURTHOUSE, CIRCUIT COURT ROOM

Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Bath County, Virginia, Claire A. Collins, Chairperson; Richard B. Byrd, Vice Chairman; Stuart L. Hall; Edward T. Hicklin; Mathew S. Ratcliffe; Lady and Gentlemen Supervisors; Michael M. Collins, County Attorney; and Ashton N. Harrison, County Administrator.

Claire A. Collins, Chair called the meeting to order.

Upon a motion made by Supervisor Byrd which was adopted 5 in favor, 0 against, the Board went into closed meeting in the Upper Level Conference Room Pursuant to Code of Virginia of 1950 as amended Section 2.2-3711.A.1 Personnel.

Supervisor Hall made a motion which was adopted 5-0, in favor of coming out of closed meeting and returning to the regular meeting and to certify as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Bath County Board of Supervisors has 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 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Bath County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bath County Board of Supervisors certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge (1) Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which the certification resolution applies and (2) Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed and considered by the Bath County Board of Supervisors.

Ayes: Claire A. Collins, Richard B. Byrd, Stuart L. Hall, Edward T. Hicklin, and Matthew S. Ratcliffe

Nays: None

Absent: None

Chair Collins called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Byrd offered the invocation.

Chair Collins asked the Board if they wished to approve or amend the agenda and the minutes from the June 9, 2016, Board of Supervisors meeting.

Supervisor Byrd made the motion to approve the agenda as presented with the request for approval of additional invoices, authorize County Administrator to solicit for Board of Equalization Members, and to continue the meeting until Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., when the Board will return to session to meet with the Economic Development Authority in the Circuit Court Room on the 2nd floor of the Courthouse. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Supervisor Ratcliffe made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2016, Board of Supervisors Meeting as submitted. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Public Comment

Mr. Matthew John Hopson, Warm Springs District, questioned why the public was not given a copy of the HB2 resolution in advance. He said this topic could potentially affect everyone in the County.

County Administrator Harrison said HB2 was a discussion item only and there would not be a resolution.

Mr. Jay Trinca, Warm Springs District, said he supported agenda item 129-16 Preferred Design Practices for Bath County and suggested adding the following verbiage to the Land Use Regulations, "owners, builders and architects are encouraged to use Preferred Design Practices in the County's villages and historic sites." Mr. Trinca said he also wanted to know why the Director of the Rockbridge Regional Library had a policy that did not allow the Republican and Democratic Parties to hold meetings in the library meeting room. He said this is a new policy and with so few options the policy has made it difficult to find space for their meetings.

Mr. Harold King, Williamsville District, asked the Board to approve the capital improvement plan request for a fire truck for Millboro Fire Department. Mr. King said Millboro's request has the full support of the Bath County Fire and Rescue Association.

Mr. Kent Daughtery, Natural Assets, said in general he supported the Preferred Design Practices guidelines. He said new businesses might not be able to afford some of the voluntary guidelines. Mr. Daughtery referenced Route 151 in Nelson County who ten years ago was a nice picturesque community that has grown and changed the nature of the landscape.

Ms. Julie Goyette, Rockbridge Regional Library Director, responded to Mr. Trinca's question regarding meeting space. Ms. Goyette said the Regional Library system is a nonprofit 501c3 and according to IRS regulations the library system would jeopardize its nonprofit status if they allowed political parties to meet there.

Board Comment

Supervisor Hicklin said preliminary scores suggest all Bath County schools are now fully accredited. Supervisor Hicklin congratulated the schools and announced Valley Elementary has hired a new principal.

Chair Collins said members of the public had asked questions concerning the County's financial position. She said Supervisor Byrd was going to address the questions by reading a report provided by County Administration and the Treasurer.

Supervisor Byrd gave a detailed report of expenditures from January 2012 to the present provided by the County Administrator's Office that included new positions created, Tourism Coordinator salary and benefits \$52,052, School Resource Officer salary and benefits \$61,731, Economic Development Director additional salary and benefits for added responsibility \$24,266, Airport Manager and Assistant salary and benefits totaling \$63,096 and part time help in various departments increased over \$40,000. Supervisor Byrd also read a list of architects, consultants, and engineers utilized for County projects at a cost of \$597,889.17. He said some of these expenses for projects were paid by the state but the funds still came into the County coffers and was expended out. Supervisor Byrd said in FY 2011-12 the real estate tax rate was \$0.55 per one hundred of assessed value and it changed in FY 2012-13 to \$0.48 per one hundred of assessed value. Supervisor Byrd said during FY 2012-13 the schools budget increased over \$1.9 million and has continued to increase every year since. He said revenue for the same time period increased 3.9 percent while expenditures increased 31.12 percent. Supervisor Byrd said the reassessment to date projects the loss of a half to three quarters of a percent. Supervisor Byrd said if the County does not learn to live within its means we will be broke within 4 years. He said at the end of this budget year the County will expend one million dollars of the reserve. That brings the reserve down to eight million dollars if you then divide that by projections he has discussed with the County Administrator the County will be faced with either raising taxes, cutting positions, or coming up with other ways to make ends meet within three years. Supervisor Byrd said the County needs to work toward an operating plan that balances the budget. He said schools are operating on a \$20,000 per pupil annual expenditure. Supervisor Byrd said he wanted to announce the Retirement Home Commission met and took action to approve a bid submitted by F.C. Plecker and Sons for repairs to the drainage pond.

Chair Collins said throughout the country there have been several adverse occurrences that affect everyone. She said the stress level is high right now and we all have to ban together and have the tough conversations that bring people back together despite their economic backgrounds, race or gender. Chair Collins said the Board would be discussing economics later in the meeting. She said the county is not immune to poverty. Chair Collins cautioned taking the county's largest employers and tax producers for granted. She said what would happen if our largest employer closed their doors or the depreciation ratio dropped significantly on our largest tax payer. Chair Collins said the County needs to come up with a plan to reorganize our economic outlook, or the future could be bleak. She said there are 120 positions in the community that are not filled because the County does not have affordable housing options.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing to amend Bath County Code Chapter 10, Erosion and Sediment Control.

Mr. Andy Seabolt, Code Official/Erosion and Sediment Control Administrator, said as of July 1, 2013 the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, Erosion and Sediment Control Law and Stormwater Management Act were consolidated under the state water control law. Mr. Seabolt said the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality produced a new erosion and sediment control model ordinance to capture the new laws, regulations and edits to combine the programs at the state level. He said the model ordinance has been edited to match format of the current County Code and is the minimum required by the Soil and Water Conservation Board. Mr. Seabolt asked the Board to consider an increased fee structure to help recover costs associated with the program and lessen the burden on tax payers. Mr. Seabolt recommended approving the code as amended.

Chair Collins opened the public hearing.

Mr. Jack Lindsay, Warm Springs District, said it is not fair that loggers clear cut and are not required to get a permit.

Chair Collins closed the public hearing.

Mr. Seabolt said logging roads and cuts are managed by Virginia Department of Forestry. He said the County manages construction and large developments. He said the code section does not affect single family homes.

Supervisor Byrd made the motion to adopt Bath County Code, Chapter 10, Erosion and Sediment Control as amended. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Consideration to set Public Hearing to Amend Bath County Code, Chapter 8, E911

Mr. Andy Seabolt, Code Official/Emergency Services Coordinator, said Chapter 8 of the Bath County Code details methods for labeling road name and structure numbers. Mr. Seabolt said Section 8-32 which the particulars outlined therein have never been used in Bath County and Section 8-43 is outdated, and does not conform to standards set by US Department of Transportation, Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The revised draft will detail current sections and allow for new standards as MUTCD changes to be revised without a code change.

Supervisor Ratcliffe said the current signs are reflective and easy to read unlike some other localities.

Supervisor Hall made the motion to set a public hearing at 7 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, at the August 9, 2016, Board of Supervisors meeting to consider adoption of the revised chapter 8, code sections 8-32 and 8-43. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Mutual Aid Agreement between Bath County VA and Pocahontas County WV

Mr. Andy Seabolt, Code Official/Emergency Services Coordinator, said Pocahontas County's Emergency Manager expressed interest in working together to share information, equipment, and experience, not only in times of disaster but anytime they could be of mutual

help. He said Fire and Rescue Departments, Sheriff's Departments and Emergency Services' Departments would work together as allowed by law to provide mutual aid. Mr. Seabolt said Pocahontas County Commissioners had reviewed and approved the agreement but in WV the agreement would require the Governor's signature. Mr. Seabolt presented the Mutual Aid Emergency Services Agreement to the Board for review and approval.

Supervisor Ratcliffe made the motion to adopt the following Mutual Aid Emergency Services Agreement between Bath County VA and Pocahontas County WV, and to authorize the County Attorney, Board Chair and County Administrator to sign the agreement. The motion was adopted 5-0

**COUNTY OF BATH AND COUNTY OF POCAHONTAS
MUTUAL AID EMERGENCY SERVICES AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 12th day of July, 2016, by and between the County of Bath, Virginia, hereafter called the party of the first part, and the County of Pocahontas, hereafter called the party of the second part.

WITNESSITH:

WHEREAS, each of the parties hereto maintains equipment and personnel for emergency services response within its own jurisdiction and areas; and,

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to augment the emergency services response available in their jurisdictions; and,

WHEREAS, the land and areas of the parties hereto are adjacent and contiguous so that mutual assistance in an emergency is deemed feasible; and,

WHEREAS, it is mutually deemed sound, desirable, practical, and beneficial for the parties to this agreement to render assistance to one another in accordance with these terms:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants herein exchanged, the parties agree as follows:

1. Each party shall respond to a request from the other for mutual aid in regard to emergency services by providing equipment and personnel in an amount and number corresponding with the seriousness of the emergency; however, the responding party shall not be obligated to provide said equipment and personnel if the provision of assistance shall jeopardize the safety of the citizens in the responding county or be impractical.
2. The rendering of assistance under the terms of this agreement shall not be mandatory, but the party receiving the request for assistance shall inform the requesting party if, for any reason, assistance cannot be provided.
3. Each party to this agreement waives all claims against the other party for compensation for any loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring as a consequence of the performance of this agreement
4. All service performed under this agreement shall provide without reimbursement from either party.
5. The Emergency Managers, 911 Administrators, Sheriffs, Chiefs of Police, Chiefs of Fire Departments, Captains of Rescue Squads and Building Officials of the parties to this agreement are authorized and directed to meet and draft any detailed plans and procedures of operations necessary to effectively implement this agreement.
6. Supervision and control of joint services shall be in accordance with Section 27-23.9 of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended).

7. This agreement shall be in effect for a period of one year, beginning on the date hereof, and shall be automatically renewed for successive like periods of one year unless either party provides the other thirty (30) days notice prior to the end of each contract year.

Preferred Design Practices for Bath County

Mrs. Sherry Ryder, County Planner and Zoning Administrator, said the Planning Commission met May 23, 2016, to review and consider Preferred Design Practices for Bath County. She said the document was compiled by members of Preservation Bath and was based on comments made by Sara Holberg, Valley Conservation Council, on a book she edited known as "Better Development in the Shenandoah Valley." The Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend the document to the Economic Development Authority and Board of Supervisors for review and comment. Mrs. Ryder explained this document is meant to be a guideline for construction and is not a law and is not considered binding. She said this will help maintain consistency and serve as a guide for new businesses.

Supervisor Ratcliffe asked if other businesses were consulted in developing the guidelines.

Supervisor Hicklin questioned why this did not also apply to residential homes.

Supervisor Byrd said the use of the word "should" in many instances throughout the document made it sound binding and directional. He said he had problems with the rendering of the Natural Assets plan.

County Administrator Harrison said adding a disclaimer to the document might be an answer.

Supervisor Byrd said he would agree to add a disclaimer to the beginning of the document.

County Attorney Collins agreed to look at the document and make suggestions.

Supervisor Byrd made the motion to add a disclaimer at the beginning of Preferred Design Practices for Bath County draft document and to send it back to the Planning Commission and County Attorney for further review. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Mrs. Sherry Ryder, County Planner, said the Planning Commission met on June 27, 2016, to hear requests and consider recommendation to the Board of Supervisor regarding the CIP. She said the Planning Commission met again on June 30, 2016, to score the requests. Requests were scored using the following criteria.

Group A: Urgent, high priority projects that should be done if at all possible.

Group B: High priority projects that should be done as funding becomes available.

Group C: Projects to be considered if funding becomes available; may be deferred to a subsequent year.

Group D: Low priority project; desirable but not essential.

Group E: Very low priority or not desirable.

Mrs. Ryder said the total requests for funding equaled \$2,383,666. The Board of Supervisors had set aside \$500,000 for FY 2017 CIP projects. Mrs. Ryder said only two projects were scored in Group A, Millboro Fire Department Pumper Truck and Bath County High School Parking Lot Rehabilitation.

Supervisor Ratcliffe said the Millboro Fire Department request for a pumper truck is a must have because of the risk to life and property.

Supervisor Byrd made the motion to accept the CIP as recommended by the Planning Commission and to authorize appropriation of \$350,000 to fund the pumper truck and to return \$150,000 to the County's reserve fund. Supervisor Byrd asked that in the future requests for school buses be added to the school's operational budget not the CIP.

Supervisor Hall asked if the pumper truck was going to be financed or purchased outright.

Chair Collins questioned what other funds might be available to make the high school parking lot suitable without making it fancy. She suggested anticipated returned school funds or parking permit fees.

Supervisor Ratcliffe asked the amount of parking permit fees that have been collected over the years.

Supervisor Byrd said with the amount of CIP requests the Board will have to extend the projects out until funding is available. Supervisor Byrd expressed concerns that a paved parking lot at the high school could create excess runoff that would potentially flood adjacent properties.

Supervisor Hicklin said what are we going to do to address the high school parking lot.

Chair Collins suggested they table the high school parking lot rehabilitation for now and to schedule a future meeting with the School Board.

Chair Collins called for the vote on Supervisor Byrd's motion to accept the CIP as recommended by the Planning Commission and to authorize appropriation of \$350,000 to fund the pumper truck and to return \$150,000 to the County's reserve fund, and in the future requests for school buses to be added to the school's operational budget not the CIP. The motion was adopted 5-0. The Board expressed appreciation to the Planning Commission and Mrs. Ryder for their work to compile and recommended the CIP requests.

Generators for Community Centers

Mr. Andy Seabolt, Code Official/Emergency Services Coordinator, said a grant opportunity through VDEM came to his attention that could help the County fund a generator project to equip community centers, particularly Mountain Crest Retirement Community

Building with backup power. He said Mountain Crest could be a special use shelter and in exchange for installing and maintaining the generator the facility would be open during an emergency. Mr. Seabolt suggested installing one generator per year until all identified facilities are fully equipped. Mr. Seabolt said the grant is a one to one match meaning every dollar received from the grant would be matched by the County. Mr. Seabolt said the FY 17 budget contains funding for generators that could be used as the County's grant match. Mr. Seabolt said grant applications are due August 1, 2016, and asked the Board to authorize him to apply for the grant.

Supervisor Ratcliffe asked if the pigtail system and mobile generators was still being considered. He said he felt confident an action plan could be developed and implemented to get mobile generators where they were needed in times of emergency.

Mr. Seabolt said trailer mounted generators could be used but logistics and manpower could be an issued during a large scale power outage.

Supervisor Byrd said opening Mountain Crest to the public is not an option due to grant restrictions that only allows for use of the facility by members of Mountain Crest Retirement Home and restricts uses by anyone else.

County Administrator recommended applying for the VDEM grant and pursue other community centers that do not have backup power.

Chair Collins said what are the options, and how do we decide which facility is most important.

Supervisor Ratcliffe made a motion to authorize Mr. Seabolt to apply for the VDEM grant.

Supervisor Hall suggested a committee to help with the grant.

Supervisor Ratcliffe rescinded his motion and asked Supervisor Hall to make the motion.

Supervisor Hall made the motion to appoint a committee consisting of County Administrator Harrison, Mr. Seabolt, Harold King, Supervisor Ratcliffe, and himself to apply for and submit the VDEM grant on behalf of the County. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Event to Receive Input on County-owned Property located in Mitchelltown

County Administrator Harrison said in July 2014, the County purchased property in Mitchelltown for the purchase of constructing a Visitor and Community Event center. He said the property was purchased with funds generated by the transient occupancy (lodgers) tax. County Administrator Harrison said input received from the lodging and tourism community has been invaluable but the next step is to seek input from the community. County Administrator Harrison asked that Saturday, August 13, 2016, be set aside as a day to meet with the public and gain their ideas on possible uses for the complex. He added that the lodger's tax continues to

increase generating in excess of \$1M again this year, indicating that the lodger's tax will be able to support future development of the project. No action was needed on the agenda item.

HB2 Transportation Funding Resolution

County Administrator Harrison said since there is no resolution, action would not be required by the Board. He said HB2 is now identified by VDOT as Smart Scale. County Administrator Harrison said VDOT staff attended a Board meeting a few months ago and discussed how to fund projects. He said safety dollars will now be used to fund the project on Back Creek Mountain. He said the next Smart Scale projects would not be available until 2018. He said it might be possible to use Smart Scale funding for drainage issues and entry way improvements at the intersection of Route 220 and Main Street in Hot Springs. No action was needed on the agenda item.

Surplus of County Vehicles

County Administrator Harrison said at its meeting on March 8, 2016, the Board moved to surplus a Jeep Cherokee assigned to the Building Official and a Ford Explorer assigned to County Administration, and to offer the vehicles to any first responder department serving the County. Having no interest from first responders' staff recommends the Board surplus the Jeep Cherokee to Bath County Service Authority and the Ford Explorer to Mertz Career and Technical Center Auto Class.

Supervisor Hall made the motion to surplus the Jeep Cherokee to Bath County Service Authority and the Ford Explorer to Mertz Career and Technical Center Auto Class. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Landfill Culvert Replacement

County Administrator Harrison said that although this is not a complicated project the culvert is a problem and needs to be replaced. He asked the Board to authorize him to solicit design builds and cost associated therewith from local contractors. He said he will bring the quotes back to the Board at its August meeting.

Supervisor Hall made the motion to authorize the County Administrator to work with Republic Services employees at the transfer station to use their equipment to replace the culvert with the County purchasing the culvert and gravel.

County Administrator Harrison said Republic Services may not be willing to do that as it is not part of their responsibilities.

Supervisor Hall said to hire a contractor with a backhoe to install the culvert.

Supervisor Hall amended his motion to allow the County Administrator to work with contractors to get the best cost and design to replace the culvert. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Committee to work with Virginia World War I & II Commemoration Commission

Chair Collins said the General Assembly created the Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission to plan and carry out programs and events to commemorate the 100th anniversary of World War I and the 75th anniversary of World War II. Chair Collins said the primary goals of the commemoration include honoring our veterans and preserving their stories. Chair Collins said Richard Armstrong, Director Bath Historical Society and Maggie Anderson, Director Bath Tourism and Economic Development are willing to take the lead on this project. Chair Collins said there is an opportunity to apply for a grant that would provide funding for a program to be determined by the committee. She said anyone that would like to be involved would be appreciated.

Supervisor Ratcliffe made the motion to designate a local committee consisting of Richard Armstrong, Maggie Anderson, Supervisor Byrd, Jay Trinca, Pam Webb, and anyone else who expresses interest, to work with the Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission and to authorize the committee to apply for the grant to help with programs. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Resolution Supporting National Association of Counties Rural Impact Challenge

Chair Collins said NACo's has been working with the White House Rural Council to develop a national initiative to help advance counties who are working to reduce the number of children and families living in poverty. Chair Collins said NACo seeks to recognize the efforts of localities and agencies like the schools free and reduced lunch programs, Total Action for Progress, and the Department of Social Services. Chair Collins said NACo provided a resolution for adoption to support a national effort to combat rural child poverty.

Supervisor Hall made the motion to adopt the following resolution 2016-04 in support of the Rural Impact County Challenge and to authorize the Chair and Clerk to sign. The motion was adopted 5-0.

RESOLUTION No. 2016-04 A Resolution in support of Rural Impact County Challenge: A National Effort to Combat Rural Child Poverty

WHEREAS, small towns and rural communities are home to millions of Americans and are a vibrant part of our nation's economy; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, approximately 1.4 million children in rural areas were poor and over 700,000 children lived in rural families with cash incomes that fell below half of the poverty line; and

WHEREAS, high rates of poverty have persisted for generations, including over 300 rural counties with poverty rates of over 20 percent in every Census since 1980; and

WHEREAS, investing in poor children and their families not only reduces poverty in the near term, but also improves children's education, health, and earnings outcomes later in life; and

WHEREAS, rural and tribal communities face distinct challenges, including limited access to critical services, fewer job prospects, and in some places, relative lack of institutional capacity; and

WHEREAS, no matter where they live, all families aspire for the cornerstones of economic security: a well-paying job, child care, a college education, health care, a home, and retirement; and

WHEREAS, the County of Bath and all counties recognize that a child's zip code should not determine her destiny, and that every child should have the opportunity to succeed; and

WHEREAS, through *The Rural Impact County Challenge*, the National Association of Counties and the White House Rural Council are encouraging public, private and nonprofit leaders to reduce the number of children living in poverty in rural areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Supervisors of the County of Bath, Virginia, do hereby sign on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of children living in poverty, commit to sharing lessons learned with other counties in our state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees and residents to participate in *The Rural Impact County Challenge*. We resolve to utilize the resources available through *The Rural Impact County Challenge* to:

- Convene or draw on a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to reducing the number of children and families in rural areas living in poverty.
- Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that improves access, participation, and/or impact of evidence-based and other promising practices in one or more of the following areas: early childhood education, nutrition, workforce development, and health and human services.
- Implement research-based approaches that advance the plan.
- Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on successes.

Closeout of FY 2015-16

County Administrator Harrison said FY 2016 ended June 30, 2016. He said each year it is necessary for the Treasurer and County Administrator to work together to make final adjustments to the budget to prepare for the annual audit and make sure all accounts are in proper order. County Administrator Harrison asked the Board to authorize the Treasurer and County Administrator to make yearend adjustments close out FY 2016. He said no additional appropriations are required or requested.

Supervisor Hall made the motion to authorize the Treasurer and County Administrator to make necessary adjustments to closeout FY 2016. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Supervisor Ratcliffe made the motion to recommend John Loeffler to the State Health Commissioner for reappointment to the Warm Springs Sanitation Commission for a term ending April 15, 2020. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Supervisor Hall said he would like to table action regarding an appointment to the Rockbridge Area Community Services Board. He said he was not aware of the vacancy until the meeting. Supervisor Hall made a motion to table action to fill the vacancy on the Rockbridge Area Community Services Board. The motion was adopted 5-0. Supervisor Hall asked that letters of appreciation be sent to those who served on Boards and Commissions.

Supervisor Ratcliffe made the motion to reappoint James White, Paul Howell, and Eddie Ryder to the Bath County Airport Authority for terms ending August 1, 2019. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Supervisor Byrd made the motion to authorize County Administrator Harrison to advertise for interested persons (3 members and 2 alternates) to serve on the Board of

Equalization, and to have the County Attorney advise the Board of their qualifications before appointments were made by the Board of Supervisors. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Consent Agenda

Supervisor Byrd made the motion to approve the payment of invoices, additional invoices, requests for transfers and appropriations, accept correspondence and monthly reports as submitted. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Actions from Closed Meeting - There were no actions from the closed session.

Public Comment

Ms. Sandy Fischer, Warm Springs District, spoke in favor of a generator at Mountain Crest Retirement Home Community Center. She said Red Cross opens shelters but they cannot take care of those with special needs.

Mrs. Virginia Nowlin, Cedar Creek District, announced an open house for Mountain Crest Retirement Home to be held on July 24, 2016, from 3 to 5 p.m. Mrs. Nowlin said because of grant restrictions Mountain Crest Community Center could not act as a shelter to anyone outside the retirement community at Mountain Crest.

Mr. Matthew John Hopson, Cedar Creek District, said he is disabled and lives just above Mountain Crest. He said he installed his own generator and was not in favor of using tax payer's money to install a generator at Mountain Crest if it could not serve the citizens.

Mrs. Ellen Ford, Millboro District, said the library building belongs to the County. She suggested declaring the Craven Meeting Room as neutral ground open to all who desired to use it as a meeting room.

Mr. Bruce McWilliams, Williamsville District, asked why the Board was continuing the meeting. He said in regards to the County's finances he felt it was important to note that this Board gave themselves a \$200 per month raise in addition to the \$100 per month raise the last Board gave them. He said to be fair this should have been included in the salaries Supervisor Byrd referenced.

Mr. Jay Trinca, Warm Springs District, said he was tired of coming to the Board to defend himself. He said a member of the EDA had confronted Supervisor Ratcliffe and said he was not qualified to be a member of the EDA because he did not support Tourism. He presented the Board with and read aloud a letter from Maggie Anderson, Tourism Director thanking him and others for their support.

Mr. Carl Chestnut, Cedar Creek District, he said keeps hearing the County is going to repair the transfer station floor. He said the County needs to get the floor fixed and let people dump there like they used to. He said there's a lack of affordable housing in the County and the Board approved 35 new houses but the local people can't afford them.

Mr. Jack Lindsay, Warm Springs District, said the high school could have milled the old pavement and used it to patch the parking lot instead of wasting it.

Mrs. Sherry Ryder, Williamsville District, spoke about the lack of courthouse security.

Mrs. Claudia Trinca, thanked Ellen Ford for her comments regarding the Library. She said she thought the lease included that the meeting room was open to the community. Mrs. Trinca said there is a lack of available meeting space in the county.

The Chair closed public comment and asked for comments from the Board.

Supervisor Byrd asked the County Administrator to look into the ownership of the library building. He said he is pretty sure the County owns, maintains, and operates the building and if anyone moves maybe it should be the library. Supervisor Byrd said whoever sent out the policy is a little bit like politicians who are trying to take God out of everything and now they are going to start taking public meetings out of libraries. Supervisor Byrd said this is the first he had heard of the restriction. He suggested a meeting between the Library Director, County Administrator and the Board Chairs. Supervisor Byrd asked the County Administrator to be very straightforward with Rockbridge Regional Library about who owns the building.

Supervisor Ratcliffe said in light of what is happening in many areas with violence against police officers he would like the Sheriff's office to have tactical vests and helmets. He asked the Sheriff to meet with the County Administrator and discuss the cost of seven sets of tactical gear. Supervisor Ratcliffe gave an update on cellular companies that are interested in expanding coverage in Bath County.

Supervisor Hall said he agreed with Supervisor Byrd and Mr. Trinca that the Chair and County Administrator should meet with the Library Director to discuss why the Republican and Democratic parties cannot meet there. He said the EDA and Emergency Service Committee meets there as well as other groups and he didn't understand why the Republican and Democratic parties cannot meet there. He said he would like an answer from the Library Director.

Chair Collins said she understood there was an IRS ruling in regards to the library's non-profit status and groups who use the meeting space. Chair Collins said there seems to be legal issues that need to be worked out and discussed.

Ms. Julie Goyette, Rockbridge Regional Library Director, responded, this is an IRS restriction. She said we are a public regional library and we could lose our non-profit status if we allow political parties to meet there. Ms. Goyette said she would provide a copy of the IRS restriction to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Chair Collins announced upcoming events including Wings and Wheels, Poor Farm Bluegrass Festival, Hi Neighbor Day, and the Cedar Creek District Meeting. Chair Collins said the reason for continuing the meeting to July 13, 2016, was in case the Board needed to enter into closed session to discuss business prospects.

Chair Collins continued the meeting until 5:30 p.m. on July 13, 2016.

Ordered that this Board do now stand adjourned until 5:30 p.m., July 13, 2016, for a joint meeting of the Board of Supervisors and members of the Economic Development Authority.

Ashton N. Harrison, Clerk

APPROVED:

Claire A. Collins, Chairperson

