

April 04, 2016

A regular monthly meeting of the Russell County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, April 04, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Russell County Government Center in Lebanon, Virginia.

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Invocation by Rev. Arnold King, Swords Creek Community Baptist Church followed by the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call by the County Administrator:

Present:

Tim Lovelace
Lou Wallace
Carl Rhea
David Eaton
Steve Breeding
Rebecca Dye
Mark Mitchell

Lonzo Lester, County Administrator

Absent: None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by David Eaton, second Mark Mitchell and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve the agenda as presented.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

AWARDS

The Board of Supervisors recognized **Jeremy Whited**, a student at Honaker High School for his efforts in collecting supplies for the Russell County Animal Shelter.

The Board also recognized the following students:

Castlewood High School Blue Devil Drama Team: Conference 48 Forensic Championship

Honaker High School Academic Team: Virginia High School League Group 1A State Scholastic Bowl Championship

Lebanon High School Wrestling: Cole Stoots, Group 2A State Wrestling Champion, 160lb weight class. Other team members placing in State were: Ethan Yates, Jaron Smith, Austin Cox and J.C. Potts.

Presentations

Jennifer Chumbley representing the Tourism Committee gave presentations. Ms. Chumbley asked the Board to support the Clinch River Valley Initiative's Blue Way project which would establish water trails on the Clinch River.

Kathy Stewart, St. Paul Tomorrow outlined the Coal Heritage Bus Tours which showcases the Appalachian Gateway Communities.

Reggie Childress, Lebanon addressed the Board concerning the possibility of reducing the number of voting precincts from sixteen to twelve to save the County approximately \$38,000. He explained that this money could be used for tourism.

Paul and Ryan Elswick with Sunset Digital addressed the Board concerning the purchase of OptiNet from BVU. They asked the Board to support them in their efforts to make this purchase. They explained that they are paying 50 million dollars for OptiNet and will absorb all seventy-five employees, related grants, reporting, etc. Their goal is to connect 10,500 new connections in the (4) four county region in the next (5) five years.

New Business

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 07, 2016 MINUTES

Motion made by David Eaton, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve the March 07, 2016 minutes and dispense with the reading thereof.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 23, 2016 MINUTES

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Lou Wallace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve the March 07, 2016 minutes and dispense with the reading thereof.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and David Eaton

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF GENERAL COUNTY INVOICES

Motion made by David Eaton, second Mark Mitchell and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve general county invoices in the amount of \$844,330.77 including withholdings and reoccurring.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Mark Mitchell, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

Committee Appointments

JAMES KISER APPOINTED TO THE CASTLEWOOD WATER AND SEWAGE AUTHORITY

Tim Lovelace nominated James Kiser. There were no other nominations.

James Kiser was unanimously appointed to the Castlewood Water and Sewage Authority for a (3) three year term, said term ending March 31, 2019.

LOU WALLACE APPOINTED THE CLEO BOARD

David Eaton nominated Lou Wallace. There were no other nominations.

Lou Wallace was unanimously appointed to the Chief Local Elected Officials Board for a term that runs concurrent with her term as a member of the Board of Supervisors.

ANGELA GARBER APPOINTED TO THE TOURISM COMMITTEE

Motion made by Lou Wallace, second David Eaton and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to appoint Angela Garber to the Russell County Tourism Committee for a (4) four year term, said term ending April 04, 2020.

The vote was:

Aye: Lou Wallace, David Eaton, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

Citizens Comment

Arthur Phillips, Dante commented that Dante needs signs for the Coal Heritage Trail. The coal money that comes from the state needs to go to the coal communities, not some city that is far away.

Jeff Holms, Elk Garden stated that his road was first on the (6) six year plan in 1996. He thinks that if you use the road you should have to help maintain it. He also stated that two people pay for all the maintenance of the road. A section of guardrail needs to be removed, he thinks it is the State's responsibility to take it out.

Steve Ray, VFW thanked the Board for all their support in locating a Veterans Clinic in the County. He asked that the Board consider appropriating funds for a building to be used by the veterans.

Jerry Hall, Lebanon asked the Board to consider paving the two tenths of a mile that would complete their road in Scenic Elk Garden Estates.

David Eaton announced that Russell County Medical Center will start seeing Veterans that live at least 40 miles from a clinic or if it takes longer than 30 days to get an appointment. A request would need to be made through the local VA to be referred to RCMC for services.

APPROVAL OF \$10,000 FOR A BUILDING FOR THE VETERANS

Motion made by David Eaton, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to appropriate \$10,000 out of this year's budget for the construction of a building for Veterans to utilize.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Carl Rhea, Lou Wallace, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

Citizens Comment continued:

Mike Rotowski, Castlewood asked that the fee for the new fitness and wellness center be reduced to \$25.00 per month

Tim Ferguson, Lebanon commented that he is in favor of the Sunset Digital purchase of OptiNet. He also has concerns about the Exit 1 ramp, people are not stopping at the stop sign.

The Chairman closed public comment.

County Administrator Reports and Requests

APPROVAL OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE COALFIELD EMPLOYMENT ENHANCEMENT TAX CREDIT

Motion made by Tim Lovelace, second Lou Wallace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a letter of support for the extension of the Coalfield Employment Enhancement Tax Credit.

The vote was:

Aye: Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, David Eaton, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF \$500 FOR KIDS FISHING DAY

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Lou Wallace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a \$500 donation for the 21st Annual Kids Fishing Day event.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, David Eaton, Steve Breeding and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN RUSSELL COUNTY AND THE TOWN OF HONAKER

Motion made by David Eaton, second Mark Mitchell and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a mutual aid agreement between Russell County Sheriff's Department and the Town of Honaker.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Mark Mitchell, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Steve Breeding and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN RUSSELL AND DICKENSON COUNTY

Motion made by David Eaton, second Tim Lovelace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a mutual aid agreement between Russell County Board of Supervisors and Dickenson County.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF THE CPRWMA MANPOWER AGREEMENT

Motion made by David Eaton, second Tim Lovelace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve the Manpower Agreement with the Cumberland Plateau Regional Waste Management Authority.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

Abstain: Carl Rhea

APPROVAL OF NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK RESOLUTION

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Lou Wallace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a resolution proclaiming the week of April 10-16, 2016 as National Library Week.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and David Eaton

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF A PLAT FOR ARNOLD AND GENEVA FOUCH

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second David Eaton and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a plat for Arnold and Geneva Fouch as requested by the Planning Commission.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, David Eaton, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

APPROVAL OF A PLAT FOR DAVID R. AND BRANDI E. LAWSON

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a plat for David R. and Brandi E. Lawson as requested by the Planning Commission.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Steve Breeding, David Eaton and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made Mark Mitchell, second David Eaton and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to enter into closed session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia and to discuss a contract matter pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(6).

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, David Eaton, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Steve Breeding and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Tim Lovelace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to return to regular session.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, Tim Lovelace, David Eaton, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Steve Breeding and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia 1950, as amended each member of the Board of Supervisors upon the Roll Call certifies that to the best of their knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters that were identified in the motion(s) by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board of Supervisors.

Any member of the Board of Supervisors who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii) above shall so state prior to the vote, indicating the substance of the departure that, in his or her judgment, has taken place.

Are there any who believe a departure has taken place? Seeing none, if you agree that the matters heard, discussed or considered during the closed meeting were pursuant only to the motion(s) by which the closed meeting was convened, please signify by saying aye or yes.

Tim Lovelace – AYE

Lou Wallace – AYE

Carl Rhea – AYE

David Eaton – AYE

Steve Breeding – AYE

Rebecca Dye – AYE

Mark Mitchell – AYE

APPROVAL TO NEGOTIATE AND HIRE A PARKS AND RECREATION/TOURISM COORDINATOR

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second David Eaton and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to authorize the County Administrator to negotiate and hire a Parks and Recreation/ Tourism Coordinator.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, David Eaton, Lou Wallace, Carl Rhea, Steve Breeding, Tim Lovelace and Rebecca Dye

Nay: None

APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE SOLID WASTE CONTRACT TO JULY 31, 2016

Motion made by David Eaton, second Tim Lovelace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve the extension of the solid waste contract to July 31, 2016.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

Abstain: Carl Rhea

MOTION TO AJOURN

Motion made by David Eaton, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to adjourn.

The vote was:

Aye: David Eaton, Carl Rhea, Lou Wallace, Tim Lovelace, Steve Breeding, Rebecca Dye and Mark Mitchell

Nay: None

Clerk of the Board

Chairman