

May 02, 2016

A regular monthly meeting of the Russell County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, May 02, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Russell County Government Center in Lebanon, Virginia.

The Clerk called the meeting to order.

Invocation by Rick Thompson, Treasurer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call by the County Administrator:

Present:

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

Lonzo Lester, County Administrator

Absent: Rebecca Dye

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON VDOT SIX YEAR PLAN**

The Chairman opened the public hearing for comments.

**John Watson**, VDOT gave an overview and answered questions concerning the Virginia Department of Transportation Six-Year Construction Plan (2016/17 TO 2021/22).

Comments were provided by:

**Mike Rotowski** of Castlewood asked Mr. Watson to explain the six-year plan.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

#### **APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION FOR VDOT SIX YEAR CONSTRUCTION PLAN 2016/17 TO 2021/22**

Motion made by David Eaton, second Tim Lovelace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a Resolution on the VDOT Six-Year Construction Plan for 2016/2017 to 2021/2022 as presented.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

#### **APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE A PORTION OF ROUTE 640 FOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT**

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to adopt a Resolution to close a portion of Route 640 located on Glade Hollow Road for approximately four weeks for bridge replacement.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

#### **Presentations**

**Reggie Childress**, Lebanon asked the Board to consider designating blue ways or water trails in Russell County. He mentioned Laurel Bed Lake, Hidden Valley Lake and the Clinch River as possible blue ways.

**Kelly McBride Delph** gave a brief overview of the Honaker Farmers' Market project. She asked the Board to consider appropriating \$500 for this fiscal year and \$3200 for next year's budget to help them purchase scales and get started.

#### **APPROVAL OF \$500 FOR THE HONAKER FARMERS MARKET**

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Lou Wallace and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve and appropriate \$500.00 from the current budget for the Honaker Farmers Market.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**Scotty Fletcher**, Assistant Superintendent of Russell County Schools asked the Board to fund a step raise for the school board employees in the 2016/2017 budget. He stated that the cost would be approximately \$477,000.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, David Eaton, Steve Breeding and Time Lovelace

Nay: None

### **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 04, 2016 MINUTES**

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve the April 04, 2016 minutes as presented and dispense with the reading thereof.

The vote was:

Aye: Mark Mitchell, Carl Rhea, Tim Lovelace, Lou Wallace, Steve Breeding 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 \$1,358,250.91 (including withholdings and reoccurring).

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

### **Citizens Comment**

**Carla Glass**, Dante gave the Board a brief history of the community of Dante and how it has deteriorated over the years. The newly formed Dante Steering committee has met and are well on their way on developing a strategic plan and they have applied for a grant to purchase playground equipment. She also stated that the history of Dante needs to be preserved. She extended an invitation to the Board to attend a community clean up on May 21, 2016 at 10:00 am.

**Kelly McBride Delph** encouraged the Board to support the designation of blue ways in Russell County.

**Mickey Hoge**, Lebanon asked that the tax rate on old cars or show vehicles be excused. He thinks this would encourage recreation and enjoyment for our citizens.

**Richard Hess**, Clarks Valley stated that he appreciates the willingness of the Board to get a long term plan in place along with the School Board to look at the salary schedule for teachers and personnel. Our priority should be the top teacher salary, the VRS benefit depends on the last three years' salary.

**Charlene Farthing**, Rosedale spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Russell County Animal Shelter, 196 animals have been saved, 35 of which have been adopted, and the others were transferred to other rescue groups. She stated that they were recently awarded a \$1500 grant to assist with the cost of spay and neuter procedures. She invited the Board and the community to a benefit for the Russell County Animal Shelter on October 01, 2016 at 12:00 in the Government Center parking lot.

**Charles Nunn**, American Legion requested a donation from the Board.

**Dustin Keith**, Elk Garden reminded all the Town of Lebanon residents to vote tomorrow. He also announced the 2016 Throw Down Graduation party to be held in Lebanon. This is a substance and drug free gathering for all three high schools in the County after graduation.

**Donna Meade**, Va. Cooperative Extension Office gave an update on the cannery committee. She hopes to give a full report at the next Board meeting.

**Susan Breeding**, Lebanon thanked Mr. Fletcher for his comments concerning teacher salaries. She stated that teachers are at the bottom of the pay scale, while supervisory positions, bus drivers, etc. are not. She encouraged the Board and the School Board to look at teacher salaries specifically.

The Chair closed citizens comment period.

### **Constitutional Officer Reports and Requests**

**Rick Thompson**, Treasurer reminded everyone that tax tickets will be mailed at the end of next week, the tax due date will be June 13, 2016.

### **County Attorney Reports and Requests**

**Matt Crum** asked that a resolution be passed recognizing the dissolution of the parks and recreation commission as they have not held a meeting since February of last year, they have no assets, no debt, have not submitted budget requests, etc.

**APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO DISSOLVE THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to adopt a Resolution dissolving the Russell County Parks and Recreation Commission.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**County Administrator Reports and Requests**

Motion made by David Eaton, second Mark Mitchell and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a \$1000.00 donation to the annual Clinch River Festival which will be held in June.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**APPROVAL OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TRAVEL REQUEST**

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a travel request for the County Administrator, the County Attorney and Dr. Michelle Meister for animal control business.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A VAN FOR THE ANIMAL SHELTER**

Motion made by Tim Lovelace, second David Eaton and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to authorize the County Administrator to bid and purchase a van for the animal shelter.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**APPROVAL OF \$500 DONATION TO THE RUSSELL COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM**

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second David Eaton and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to donate \$500 to the Russell County Search and Rescue Team for the Mud and Obstacle Relay event.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**APPROVAL PROCLAIMING MAY AS "OLDER CITIZENS MONTH"**

Motion made by Tim Lovelace, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to approve a Proclamation designating May as "Older Citizens Month".

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion made by Mark Mitchell, second David Eaton to enter into closed session to discuss contractual matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (A (6) of the Code of Virginia 1950.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

**APPROVAL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

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

The vote was:

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

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 – ABSTAIN (Did not participate due to possible conflict of interest)  
David Eaton – AYE  
Steve Breeding – AYE  
Mark Mitchell – AYE

**APPROVAL TO ADJOURN AND RECONVENE ON MAY 18, 2016 AT 10:00 AM**

Motion made by David Eaton, second Carl Rhea and duly approved by the Board of Supervisors to adjourn to reconvene on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 10:00 am for the purpose of a public hearing on the 2016/2017 budget and a continued work session.

The vote was:

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

Nay: None

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Clerk of the Board

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Chairman