

**HALIFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Mary Bethune Office Complex
1030 Mary Bethune Street, Room 201
Halifax, Virginia
August 5, 2019 / 6:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN- 6:30PM

II. ROLL CALL

Board of Supervisors members attending were Mr. J. T. Davis, ED #1; Mr. J. D. Francisco, ED #2; Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, ED #3; Mr. D. G. Witt, ED # 4; Mr. J. A. Rogers, ED #5; Mr. S. Brandon, ED #6; Mr. G. B. Ricketts, ED #7; and Mr. W. B. Claiborne, ED #8. Also attending was Mr. James Wade, Tie Breaker.

Staff members attending were Mr. Scott Simpson, County Administrator; Mrs. Stephanie Jackson, Finance Director; Mr. Detrick Easley, Planning/Zoning Administrator; Mr. Otis Vaughan, General Properties and Inspections Director; and Olivia Epps, Administrative Assistant.

Newspaper reporters attending were Mr. Doug Ford, *The Gazette-Virginian*; Mr. Henry Stevens, *The News & Record*; and Mr. Tom McLaughlin, *The News & Record*. Security was provided by Sheriff Clark, Deputy G. Jones.

III. INVOCATION – Supervisor Brandon gave the invocation.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, seconded by Mr. J. D. Francisco and carried, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt,
Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays: No one
Abstained: No one
Absent During Vote: Mr. J.A. Rogers
Absent During Meeting: No one

V. MINUTES CORRECTIONS / APPROVAL

- A. June 25, 2019 Recycling Review Committee
- B. June 25, 2019 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting
- C. July 9, 2019 War Memorial Oversight Committee
- D. July 17, 2019 Economic Development Committee

Chairman Witt asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes which were included in the Board packet. Mr. Pannell stated that Ms. Kathy Andrews from the Department of Social Services requested clarification be made in the June 25 minutes to reflect that the carryover funds of approximately \$325,000 would provide funding, to include leasing office space, wiring and telephone needs, office furnishings, utilities, janitorial services and other necessary operations costs for that leased space, excluding personnel and benefits. Mr. Simpson explained that the funding could be used for these items but further specifically stated that the carryover funding would not be used for funding personnel.

Motion made by Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, seconded by Mr. S. Brandon and carried, to clarify the June 25 minutes to reflect the Department of Social Services carryover funds of approximately \$325,000 would provide funding for capital improvements, to include leasing office space, wiring and telephone needs, office furnishings, utilities, janitorial services and other necessary operations costs, excluding personnel.

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays: No one
Abstained: No one
Absent During Vote: Mr. J.A. Rogers
Absent During Meeting: No one

With no other clarifications, Chairman Witt declared the minutes adopted.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

A. Treasurers Report May 30, 2019 \$37,464,897.91

COUNTY OF HALIFAX
Cash Statement as MAY 31, 2019

CASH	\$	8,000.00	
CASH IN BANKS	\$	37,432,375.09	
Prepaid 2019 County Taxes			\$ 11,525.44
Benchmark Non Judicial			\$ 1,542.13
GENERAL FUND:			
Available Surplus			\$ 21,006,056.59
VPA			\$ 386,010.10
Courthouse Maint.			\$ 248,505.47
Capital Improvement Projects:			\$ 1,507,914.44
VA SNAP 2014 Series-reov.			
(INTEREST)			
2016C VRA CTHSE MAINT.			\$ 10,652,294.09
(INTEREST)			\$ 611,183.55
Drug Task Force Fund:(Sheriff) FEDERAL			\$ 15,264.79
Drug Task Force Fund:(Sheriff) REG.			\$ 21,578.11
Drug Task Force Fund:(Sheriff) STATE			\$ 43,088.70
Law Library Fund:			\$ 62,182.73
E-911 Surcharge Bldg. Const. Fund:			\$ 231,872.18
E-911 Surcharge Tax Fund:			\$ -
Drug Prosecutor Atty Fund:			\$ 25,267.47
Comm Atty Forfeiture Drug Fund:			\$ 2,116.50
Comm Atty Forfeiture Drug Fund: FEDERAL			
Grant Fund:			\$ 524,602.21
William Tuck Airport Commission Fund:			\$ 220,726.97
School Oper. Fund:			
School Textbook Fund:			\$ 288,812.45
School Café Food Service Fund:			\$ 799,713.09
School Operat. Capital Const. Fund:			\$ 185,589.51
William Tuck Airport Captial Fund:			\$ 210,418.20

COUNTY OF HALIFAX
Cash statements as of MAY 31, 2019

Health Savings Account (HSA)		\$ 683.18
Special Welfare Fund:		\$ 251,253.08
War Memorial Commission Fund:		\$ 13,893.04
Hal. Co. So. Boston Lib. Fund:		\$ 52,888.42
C/W Current Credit Acct Est Tax		
C/W Current Debit	\$ 1,657.12	
VA Housing Tax 2% VHCD		\$ 1,027.13
Hal. Co. Heritage Commission Fund:		\$ 66,022.64
Hal. Co. Heritage Fest.: (Investments)	22,865.70	
Hal. Co. Heritage Fest.: (Surplus in CD's)		\$ 22,865.70
Primary Entrance Fee Fund:		
OPREF		\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 37,464,897.91	\$ 37,464,897.91

Ruth S. Oakes, Treasurer
Submitted: July 11, 2019
Ruth S. Oakes, County Treasurer

B. Warrants July 31, 2019 \$2,614,981.15

	July-19
BILL WARRANT NUMBERS:	111838-112029
	112049-112286
PAYROLL WARRANT NUMBERS:	112031-112048

PAYROLL WARRANT		28534-28735
GENERAL FUND:	TOTAL EXPENDED	
BILLS	\$	910,094.92
PAYROLL	\$	637,045.91
GRANT FUND:		
BILLS	\$	70,774.02
PAYROLL	\$	44,844.37
E-911 FUND:		
BILLS	\$	50,148.86
PAYROLL	\$	57,336.97
OTHER:		
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$	829,076.33
COMM. DEBIT ACCOUNT		
COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE FUND		
DRUG TASK FORCE		
HERITAGE	\$	9,140.58
GENERAL OBLIGATION FUND (LANDFILL)		
AIRPORT	\$	5,769.79
AIRPORT CAPITAL		
LAW LIBRARY		
UNEMPLOYMENT FUND		
WAR MEMORIAL		
SCHOOLS		
LIBRARY - VRS HYBRID	\$	79.14
SOCIAL SERVICES - VRS HYBRID	\$	670.26
TOTAL	\$	2,614,981.15

C. Supplemental Appropriations

AUGUST 5, 2019				
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS				
ORG	OBJ	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE	AMOUNT
10018000	189999	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	REFUND RECEIVED	(69.49)
10052221	505230	COMM ATTORNEY - TELECOMMUNICATIONS	REFUND RECEIVED	30.00
10052222	505230	DRUG PROSEC - TELECOMMUNICATIONS	REFUND RECEIVED	39.49
10053312	508302	SHERIFF - VEHICLE EXPENSE	INSURANCE PROCEEDS	38,770.65
10018000	406000	INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT	INSURANCE PROCEEDS	(38,770.65)

Motion made by Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, seconded by Mr. J. D. Francisco and carried, to approve the Consent Agenda.

VOTE:

- Ayes:** Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
- Nays:** No one
- Abstained:** No one
- Absent During Vote:** Mr. J. A. Rogers
- Absent During Meeting:** No one

VII. BUSINESS ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Citizens' Comments

Chairman Witt opened the floor to citizens' comments. Hearing none, Chairman Witt closed the time for citizens' comments.

B. Presentation from OWPR on Halifax County High School Independent Evaluation

Background:

On April 1, 2019 the Halifax County Board of Supervisors authorized a Committee for the selection of an Architectural firm to provide an independent third party evaluation of the Moseley Architects Facility Assessment & Master Plan Study related to the School System. The Board of Supervisors sought an independent review of the findings and recommendations in order to be confident the correct long term decisions are being made.

The Board of Supervisors engaged OWPR Architects and Engineers of Blacksburg for this evaluation. The report was recently received by the Board and OWPR will present a summary of the evaluation to the Board and public.

Randy Jones, president of OWPR, presented a PowerPoint which provided details about the Second Opinion Assessment of Halifax County High School. Mr. Jones explained that it was not the intention of OWPR to question the credibility of the study completed by Moseley Architects. He said 80 percent of the work done by OWPR is in K-12 design, and their goal with the assessment was to provide alternatives and information which could help Halifax County make the best possible decision for its school system.

Mr. Jones presented full details of alternative solutions, including site, building, and stadium, resulting from OWPR's assessment. He indicated their focus on reusing existing assets and

proposed options which could be cost effective and offer significant longevity. Mr. Jones said they focused on safety and security, the best use of space, evaluation of ADA requirements, and aesthetics.

Mr. Jones said the renovation cost is approaching 75 percent of the cost of a new facility, and generally the recommendation is when cost estimates get that close, it may be better to consider building new. He added that another consideration is the cost to demolish a building the size of the school if the decision is made to build new.

Mr. Brandon asked for clarification on whether the proposed \$73 million renovation proposed by OWPR included the stadium, and Mr. Jones said it did not. Mr. Davis and Mr. Brandon questioned what the life of a new building and a renovated school would be, as well as questioning the condition of the roof and structural soundness of the building. Mr. Jones responded facility life spans would be approximately 30 to 35 years for a renovated facility and 50+ years for a new facility. He also responded the roof is in good condition and the building is structurally sound.

Mr. Claiborne asked about environmental issues at the school, particularly mold. Mr. Jones responded there was no evidence or observation of mold, and he stated that doing separate testing for mold or other environmental issues was certainly an option.

Mr. Ricketts asked Mr. Jones if he could offer any comments about new versus renovated as it relates to anticipated decrease in school age population in the coming years. Mr. Jones said evaluating that factor was beyond the scope of the study, however there had been references to this factor and the proposed newly constructed high school is smaller than the existing structure.

Mr. Claiborne asked Mr. Jones if he could offer his opinion on renovating versus building new. Mr. Jones responded from a design perspective, saying that costs will continue to increase and modern education has changed dramatically. He indicated that something needed to be done but he did not have a clear-cut answer for the Board.

Mr. Davis said the County can only afford so much and we need to look at where the County will be down the road. Mr. Witt echoed Mr. Davis, saying when the high school was built in the 1970s, there was no technology, no security needs, no social media. The environment is different and the Board needs to be sure it spends money in the best way for the future.

Mr. Pannell spoke, referencing page 43 of the OWPR assessment and the suggestion that once renovation costs reach 75 percent or more, it may be most advisable to build new. Mr. Jones said that the key in looking at that suggestion is balancing low cost versus value. He said that he is unsure that renovation would give the school system the best long term value.

Mr. Claiborne asked what it would take to make the current high school secure. Mr. Jones responded that there would need to be changes in how the school is zoned and what options are for locking down different areas of the school.

Mr. Brandon asked whether renovations would involve changing perimeter walls and what effect would it have on changing the number of exterior doors at the facility. Jones responded that renovations could be tough and they would need to look closely at ADA code. He further explained the nature of a facility that size really requires a large number of exterior doors.

Mr. Francisco asked about whether the quality of construction materials had improved so much that this school at 40 years old needs such massive improvements, but Mr. Jones is indicating a new school constructed today could last 50 years or more. Mr. Jones said materials have improved significantly and pointed out the high school's HVAC system is one of the biggest issues and should have been addressed 10-15 years ago.

Mr. Witt thanked OWPR for the presentation and their work on the assessment. He said the Board of Supervisors and the School Board will need to come together soon because there is so much information to digest and discuss.

C. Sales tax referendum**Background:**

On July 1, 2019 the General assembly enacted Code Section 58.1-605.1 and 58.1-606.1 which allows Halifax County to levy an additional local sales and use tax with the revenues to be used for construction or renovation of schools. This levy is only authorized by Ordinance after approval at a referendum.

The steps involved in this process are:

1. Resolution requesting the referendum.
2. Petition to Circuit Court
3. Referendum on November 5th Ballot (deadline August 16)
4. Adoption of Local Ordinance

Attached is the proposed resolution and referendum question for discussion.

Mr. Witt explained that without the additional sales tax, the decision about the high school will be drastic. Mr. Claiborne echoed his statement saying the public needs to understand the importance of passing the sales tax referendum. He said the money for the high school has to come from somewhere and without the sales tax increase the Board would be hard-pressed to find the money.

Mr. Simpson provided background on the referendum and explained the process necessary to get the referendum on the ballot. He read a portion of the resolution requesting the referendum, focusing on the wording of the referendum. Mr. Simpson explained the tax would expire on the date when the bonds or loans are repaid. Based on financial projections, the earliest implementation of the sales tax would be July 1, 2020, with the bond issuance in 2021.

Motion made by Mr. J. T. Davis, seconded by Mr. G. B. Ricketts and carried, to adopt Resolution 2019-25 as it has been written and presented.

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt,
Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers and Mr. W. B. Claiborne

Nays: No one

Abstained: No one

Absent During Vote: No one

Absent During Meeting: No one

2019-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF HALIFAX, VIRGINIA**

A RESOLUTION INITIATING A REFERENDUM TO AUTHORIZE HALIFAX COUNTY TO LEVY OF A GENERAL RETAIL SALES TAX AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED ONE PERCENT (1%) TO PROVIDE REVENUE SOLELY FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION OF SCHOOLS IN HALIFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN ACCORDANCE WITH VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 58.1-605.1.

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly approved HB 1634, which was signed into law by the Governor on March 19, 2019, and which took effect on July 1, 2019, as Chapter 648 of the 2019 Acts of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, HB 1634 is codified at Virginia Code § 58.1-605.1 as of July 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 58.1-605.1 provides Halifax County with the statutory authority to levy a general retail sales tax at a rate not to exceed one percent (1%) to provide revenue solely for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools in Halifax County; and

WHEREAS, Halifax County may not levy the general retail sales tax authorized by Virginia Code § 58.1-605.1 unless and until the tax is approved in a referendum within Halifax County held in accordance with Virginia Code § 24.2-684 and initiated by a resolution of the Halifax County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 58.1-605.1 requires that the resolution authorizing the referendum state, if the capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools are to be financed by bonds or loans, the date by which those bonds or loans shall be repaid; and

WHEREAS, Halifax County will finance the capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools by bond or loans, those bonds or loans will have a repayment term of thirty years, and those bonds or loans will be repaid by September 30, 2051; and

WHEREAS, the general retail sales tax authorized by Virginia Code § 58.1-605.1 shall expire, if the capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools are to be financed by bonds or loans, on the date by which such bonds or loans shall be repaid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Halifax County Board of Supervisors as follows:

1. The Halifax County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes and initiates a referendum within Halifax County in accordance with Virginia Code § 24.2-684 on a ballot question in substantially the following form:

“Should Halifax County be authorized to levy a general retail sales tax at a rate not to exceed one percent (1%), provided the revenue from the sales tax shall be

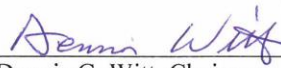
used solely for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools in Halifax County and that the sales tax shall expire by September 30, 2051?

Yes

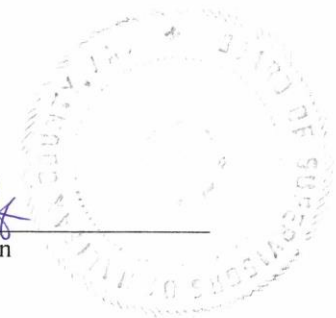
No”

2. The capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools will be financed by bonds or loans. Those bonds or loans shall have a repayment term of thirty years and shall be repaid by September 30, 2051. The general retail sales tax, if approved, shall expire on the date by which such bonds or loans shall be repaid.
3. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the County Attorney, County Administrator, and such other appropriate officers of Halifax County to execute, deliver and file all required pleadings with the Halifax County Circuit Court to initiate the above-referenced referendum to be held on November 5, 2019.
4. The Board hereby directs the County Attorney, County Administrator, and such other appropriate officers of Halifax County to execute, deliver and file all documents, pleadings, petitions, certificates and instruments, and to take all such further actions as may be necessary, expedient or desirable in connection with, and that are in conformity with, the purposes, spirit and intent of this resolution. Without limiting the foregoing, the County Attorney, County Administrator, and such other appropriate officers of Halifax County are specifically authorized to modify the ballot question as stated herein as they deem necessary to conform to the requirements of the Halifax County Circuit Court, the State Board of Elections, and/or the Local Electoral Board.
5. The recitals to this Resolution are hereby incorporated by reference and are declared to be findings of the Board in connection with its decision to adopt this Resolution.
6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted this 5th day of August, 2019.



 Dennis G. Witt, Chairman





 Scott R. Simpson, Clerk

D. Finance Committee recommendations

Mr. Simpson explained that the Finance Committee held a meeting on Thursday, August 1, 2019 and the Committee discussed a permit waiver request from Tri-Rivers Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Simpson explained that Habitat needed to proceed with construction and paid for their building permit, meaning their waiver request would actually be a reimbursement of their payment for the building permit in the amount of \$426.69.

Motion made by Mr. J. T. Davis, seconded by Mr. G. B. Ricketts and carried, to grant the request for building permit waiver for Tri-Rivers Habitat For Humanity and provide reimbursement for the previously paid amount.

VOTE:

- Ayes:** Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
- Nays:** No one
- Abstained:** No one
- Absent During Vote:** No one
- Absent During Meeting:** No one

Mr. Simpson reviewed what was discussed in the Finance Committee meeting regarding the tax exemption request by Mid-Atlantic Broadband and the SOVA Innovation Hub which will be built in South Boston. He explained that MBC has requested the current tax exemption carryover to the new property, citing the new location as a continued effort to advance MBC’s charitable objectives and benefit the citizens of the County.

Mr. Simpson stated the full Committee agreed and requested Mr. Simpson contact MBC about attending the September Board meeting and present further information to the full Board of Supervisors.

The Board agreed and Mr. Simpson said he would contact MBC about presenting during the regular September meeting.

Mr. Simpson reviewed the Health Department carryover request discussed by the Finance Committee and explained that because the carryover request involves operational funds and not capital funds, the Committee voted to recommend denying the Department of Health carryover request.

The Board agreed that approving the carryover request would set a different precedent and that the request should be denied.

Motion made by Mr. J. D. Francisco, seconded by Mr. H. W. H. Pannell and carried, to deny the Department of Health request to carryover \$47,000 in operational funds from FY19 to FY20.

VOTE:

- Ayes:** Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
- Nays:** No one
- Abstained:** No one
- Absent During Vote:** No one
- Absent During Meeting:** No one

Mr. Simpson explained the County has received a \$50,000 grant from the USDA which will be used towards the purchase of sheriff’s vehicles and equipment. He said the Finance Committee voted to recommend acceptance of this grant and further explained that the grant funding would offset a portion of a \$215,000 vehicle expense line item, thus saving the County money.

Motion made by Mr. S. Brandon, seconded by Mr. G. B. Ricketts and carried, to accept the USDA grant funds in the amount of \$50,000, to be used towards the purchase of sheriff's vehicles and equipment.

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt,
Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays: No one
Abstained: No one
Absent During Vote: No one
Absent During Meeting: No one

Mr. Simpson provided background on the Erosion & Sediment Control management and Stormwater management programs in Halifax County, highlighting the County's oversight of the E & S Control Program and the DEQ's oversight of Stormwater Program. He said an internal conversation among staff resulted in discussion about changing the fee schedule for E & S fees. He further explained that County staff are required to visit a project site every two weeks or within 48 hours following a major rain event to determine that E & S Controls are being maintained and working properly. There is also reporting documentation which must be completed after each inspection.

Mr. Simpson said the procedure to change the fee structure included holding a public hearing and then adopting a resolution following the public hearing. Mr. Simpson provided a proposed fee schedule to the Board for their review. Mr. Simpson said the County staff could finalize the proposed changes in fees and publicize appropriately for a public hearing.

Proposed Fee Structure for Erosion and Sediment Control Program

Permit and Plan Application Fee

\$200 per plan + \$50 per acre, no size limit ceiling

The permit application will require a project completion date stated by the Applicant for proposed Permanent Stabilization

Inspection Fee

\$200 per month for inspections prepaid through completion date
 \$400 per month for every month after the proposed completion date.

If project goes over the time of completion, the performance bond cannot be released until extras fees are paid.

No refunds of prepaid fees for early completion.

Examples: Large scale project

700 disturbed acres.			
Plan		\$	200.00
Acres at \$50	700	\$	35,000.00
Inspection (months)	12	\$	2,400.00
<hr/>			
Total		\$	37,600.00

Mid-size development

100 disturbed acres			
Plan		\$	200.00
Acres at \$50	100	\$	5,000.00
Inspection (months)	9	\$	1,800.00
<hr/>			
Total		\$	7,000.00

Small Scale Project

25 disturbed acres			
Plan		\$	200.00
Acres at \$50	25	\$	1,250.00
Inspection (months)	7	\$	1,400.00
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Total		\$	2,850.00

Average Retail Project

3 disturbed acres			
Plan		\$	200.00
Acres at \$50	3	\$	150.00
Inspection (months)	5	\$	1,000.00
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Motion made by Mr. J. D. Francisco, seconded by Mr. S. Brandon and carried, to schedule a public hearing on September 3 at 6:30 p.m. during the regular Board meeting to address proposed fee changes related to the E & S Program.

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays: No one

Abstained: No one
Absent During Vote: No one
Absent During Meeting: No one

E. Empower Broadband (MEC) request approval for VATI grant application

Background:

Mr. Simpson met with Empower representatives met a few weeks ago and determined the areas indicated for their proposed fiber optic project do not greatly overlap the areas planned to be served by the wireless broadband partner.

The service proposed should be a good compliment to the wireless service areas.

Mr. Dustin Francis will inform the board of these proposed service areas and ask for the concurrence of the County for a grant application. The intent is for no local County funds to be committed for the project.

Mr. Dustin Francis, Community Relations Coordinator for Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative, presented a PowerPoint about the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) grant application for which MEC is seeking support and approval. Mr. Francis provided extensive information about the potential project areas for extending high-speed broadband to five areas, including:

- Omega (10 miles, approximately 194 homes),
- Crystal Hill north (17 miles, approximately 207 homes)
- Lower Liberty (4 miles, approximately 80 homes)
- Meadville to County Line (18 miles, approximately 325 homes)
- Bull Creek (4.6 miles, approximately 60 homes)

Mr. Brandon thanked Mr. Francis for his presentation and said Empower Broadband continues to be at the forefront and visible to the community. He then questioned why they don't do business in the southwest portion of the county.

Mr. Francis responded that the state tells the electric companies where they can operate in the state. With broadband however, they can move outside the electric company boundaries and plan to do so in the future.

Mr. Francis said he is asking the Board of Supervisors to approve Empower and MEC partnering with Halifax County to apply for the VATI grant.

Motion made by Mr. J. T. Davis, seconded by Mr. S. Brandon and carried, to endorse the partnership with MEC and Empower Broadband to pursue the VATI grant.

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt,
Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays: No one
Abstained: No one
Absent During Vote: No one
Absent During Meeting: No one

F. Information on EPA Clean Up at Shiloh Church Rd site

Background:

Beginning the week of July 15th, work began at the subject site related to an EPA cleanup; the following pages are weekly updates.

Steve Dishman, Emergency Services Coordinator will provide a general update of the past weeks' activities by the EPA.

Mr. Simpson gave the update in Mr. Dishman's absence. He reported County is not actively involved in the EPA clean up at Shiloh Church Road site and there is no action necessary by the Board. Mr. Dishman receives weekly updates from the EPA. A few additional residents have been identified to receive water treatment systems as a result of the clean-up; however, no other significant issues have been reported.

G. Update on courthouse renovations

Background:

The Courthouse project is progressing well with structural steel erection and continued installation of footings and structural retaining walls.

Attached is a one month look back and forward for site activities as well as some progress photographs.

Mr. Simpson reported that the Courthouse project is progressing well since the contractor was released for work. Steel decking has started on the southern third of the building and significant progress can be seen above ground. A thorough list of bullet points highlighting the latest progress was included in the board packets and Mr. Simpson reviewed those briefly.

Mr. Pannell noted he was happy to see the progress being made on the project.

August 05, 2019



Halifax County Courthouse

30 Day Look Back and 30 Day Look Ahead

30 Day Look Back:

- The new storm water line on Edmunds Blvd is complete
- Grading at the CA building pad is complete
- CMU block at Staff Stair #172 is complete
- Soil nails at the west wall of the historic courthouse is complete
- Soil nails and shotcrete against the dirt below the north and south sides of the historic courthouse is complete
- Shotcrete against the large dirt bank at Edmunds Blvd is complete.
- Saw cutting at existing concrete walls and slabs around the west side of the historic courthouse is complete
- Formed concrete walls for the southeast corner complete.
- Helical piers complete.
- Steel erection started at the south side of the building.

30 Day Look Ahead:

- Steel decking starts at the south side of the building.
- Formed concrete walls continue north at the east side of the building.
- Digging and pouring foundations continue.

H. Update on Recycling

Background:

Reference is made to the Recycling Committee minutes from June 25, 2019. The collection containers are painted and almost prepared for delivery to the sites, container signage is being printed and produced as well.

All expectations are that containers will be delivered to the sites within the next 2 weeks and the program will commence again with a close monitoring of the deposited products.

Mr. Simpson said the County staff is working to complete the steps necessary to implement the revised recycling program. He said public awareness is a large component of what the program needs to accomplish, noting that repainting boxes in bright yellow and using clear signage with information about recyclables are playing a significant part in directing the public. Mr. Simpson referenced the photos and signage example in the Board materials, saying the County was aiming to begin recycling again around the third week in August. A lesser number of recycling containers at a lesser number of locations are being utilized.

Mr. Witt and Mr. Davis each asked a question about putting more specific information on the signs, regarding 'no glass' and only plastic containers with a "1" or a "2" recycling number. Mr. Simpson said he would talk with Mr. Ricky Nelson at Public Works about the additional signage changes.



I. Virginia Department of Transportation Monthly Status Report

Jay Craddock, Assistant Resident Engineer from the VDOT Halifax Residency, provided the VDOT report. He said Route 683 is the only road still closed from storm damage and the bridge replacement scheduled for that road indicates a projected reopening date for the road in Winter 2020. Route 619 reopened in late July. VDOT is continuing with its mowing schedule for primary and secondary roads. Rural Rustic Secondary Improvements include Routes 820, 771, and 830.

Mr. Craddock provided a handout to the Board with additional details about pending requests for VDOT.

J. War Memorial Committee Recommendation

Mr. Simpson provided a review of the War Memorial Committee meeting on July 9, including a brief explanation of the Turning Radius Improvement Project at the intersection of Main Street and Mountain Road, which is the location of the War Memorial. He told the Board of Supervisors that the War Memorial Committee reviewed the project with VDOT and Town of Halifax officials and the Committee felt comfortable with the changes and the minimal effect on the War Memorial. He stated the Committee voted, as evidenced by their minutes, to recommend the Board accept and approve the project.

Motion made by Mr. S. Brandon, seconded by Mr. J. D. Francisco and carried, to accept and approve the project and move forward with the easement and right-of-way donation.

VOTE:

- Ayes:** Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
- Nays:** No one
- Abstained:** No one
- Absent During Vote:** No one
- Absent During Meeting:** No one

K. Other Items

1. Solar Consortium Update

Mr. Witt provided an overview of the Solar Consortium, noting that rural counties are not reaping equal rewards from solar entities. He said immediate solutions included voluntary agreements in lieu of tax offsets. He also said the solar companies and the counties need to work together to help improve tax revenues. Meetings are ongoing each month.

L. Supervisors' Comments

No specific comments by Board members.

M. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE 2.2-3711 (If Needed)

Motion made by Mr. J. D. Francisco, seconded by Mr. W. B. Claiborne and carried, that this body go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711

Subsection (a) (1). Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. (Appointments)

Subsection (a) (5) Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. (Prospect Update)

Subsection (a) (7). Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. (Current Lawsuits)

Subsection (a) (8) Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding special legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter. (Opioid Litigation Update)

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays: No one
Abstained: No one
Absent During Vote: No one
Absent During Meeting: No one

The Board entered into Closed Session at 9:05 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. J. D. Francisco, seconded by Mr. H. W. H. Pannell and carried, that the Board arise from Closed Meeting and return to its Regular Meeting.

VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays: No one
Abstained: No one
Absent During Vote: No one
Absent During Meeting: No one

The Board returned to open session at 10:22 p.m.

ATTENDING CLOSED SESSION:

Attending Closed Session was County Administrator Scott Simpson.

RE: RESOLUTION OF CERTIFICATION:

Motion made by Mr. S. Brandon, seconded by Mr. J. D. Francisco and carried, to adopt the following certification:

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Halifax 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, § 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this governing body that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this governing body 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 business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the governing body.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. J. T. Davis	Yes
Mr. H. W. H. Pannell	Yes
Mr. D. G. Witt	Yes
Mr. S. Brandon	Yes
Mr. G. B. Ricketts	Yes
Mr. W. B. Claiborne	Yes
Mr. J. D. Francisco	Yes
Mr. J. A. Rogers	Yes
Nays:	No one
Abstained:	No one
Absent During Vote:	No one
Absent During Meeting:	No one

Motion made by Mr. W. B. Claiborne, seconded by Mr. J. D. Francisco and carried, for the Board to enter into a Non-Disclosure Agreement with Blue Ribbon Development, LLC.

VOTE:

Ayes:	Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays:	No one
Abstained:	No one
Absent During Vote:	No one
Absent During Meeting:	No one

N. APPOINTMENTS

COMMUNITY COLLEGES ADVISORY BOARDS (At Large Appointments) – Term ended for Richard Hutcherson on June 30, 2019 and he was not eligible for reappointment.

Motion made by Mr. G. B. Ricketts, seconded by Mr. S. Brandon and carried, that the Board recommend Mr. Kevin Shotwell for appointment to the Community Colleges Advisory Board.

VOTE:

Ayes:	Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne
Nays:	No one
Abstained:	No one
Absent During Vote:	No one
Absent During Meeting:	No one

H. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. W. B. Claiborne seconded by Mr. Mr. S. Brandon and carried, to adjourn at 10:25 p.m.

Ayes: Mr. J. T. Davis, Mr. J. D. Francisco, Mr. H. W. H. Pannell, Mr. D. G. Witt, Mr. S. Brandon, Mr. G. B. Ricketts, Mr. J. A. Rogers, and Mr. W. B. Claiborne

Nays: No one

Abstained: No one

Absent During Vote: No one

Absent During Meeting: No one

NEXT MEETING(S)

Regular Meeting September 3, 2019 (6:30 p.m.) (Tuesday)
No Joint Meeting with Towns until October 21, 2019

Dennis Witt, Chairman

Scott R. Simpson, P. E., Clerk