

VIRGINIA: At a Work Session of the Board of Supervisors for the County of Accomack
held in the Board Chambers on the 1st day of April, A.D., 2009.

Members Present: Laura Belle Gordy, Vice Chair
Wanda J. Thornton
Ron S. Wolff
Grayson Chesser
Sandra Hart Mears
John Charles "Jack" Gray
Donald L. Hart, Jr.
E. Philip McCaleb

Members Absent: Steve D. Mallette, Chair

Others Present: Steven B. Miner, County Administrator
Yvonne N. Pennell, Administrative Assistant
Mark B. Taylor, County Attorney

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair and opened with a prayer by Rev.
Broad, after which the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. McCaleb made a motion to amend the Agenda to add under New Business a
report of the study done related to taxes on subdivisions. Mrs. Thornton seconded the
motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Mallette and Mr. Hart absent.

Mrs. Thornton made a motion to adopt the Agenda as presented as amended. Mr.
Wolff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Mallette and Mr. Hart
absent.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Thornton made a motion to approve the following items under the Consent
Agenda. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr.
Mallette and Mr. Hart absent.

- 1) To ratify the advertising of a Public Hearing On April 15, 2009, to receive
public input on the Proposed Secondary Road Six Year Plan: 2009-2010 to
2014-2015 and Improvement Priorities for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 for
Accomack County

Accomack County Public Schools

W. Richard Bull, Division Superintendent, Accomack County Public Schools, gave
an update on school related activities and responded to questions from the Board.

Highway Matters

Mr. Robert (Bobby) Isdell, Acting Residency Administrator, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), gave a report on road issues and responded to questions.

Mr. Isdell also briefed the Board on the proposed Accomack County Six-Year Plan and responded to questions.

Budget Deliberations

The following persons presented their respective budget requests for FY-2010 and responded to questions:

Patricia Phillips, Dean of Learning Resources, E. S. Community College, on behalf of Monte Sullivan, Acting College President

Marian Huber, E. S. Resource Conservation & Development Council

Nial Finegan, E. S. Small Business Development Center

Bill Shockley, Jane Corson-Lassiter, Fred Holland & Rick Hall - E. S. Soil & Water District

Scott R. Chandler, Family Projects

Samuel H. Cooper – Law Library

Nancy Stern – School Dental Program

Mary Parker – Department of Social Services

Mr. Hart entered the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Mary Ardolino – Star Transit

Lisa LaMontange and Steve Potts – Tourism Commission

Steve Miner & Brent Hurdle – Reassessment Performance Schedule

Land Use Assessments

Dan Hillman, County Consultant, gave a briefing on land use assessments established by SLEAC and responded to questions.

Tipping Fee Rebate

Mr. Bruce Paone and Mrs. Billie D. Custis, Mayors of the Town of Onancock and the Town of Onley respectively, offered comments related to the a proposal by the County to cease payments of tipping fee rebates.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to have the Department of Public Works complete a work-up on the costs associated with Convenience Centers if rebates were not paid to incorporated towns.

Rules of Procedure

A discussion took place regarding starting times and voting methods for discussion following Old Business and New Business at Board Work Session meetings and Regular Meetings.

Mr. McCaleb made a motion to leave the Rules as currently written to meet at 4:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of each month for Work Sessions and at 5:00 P.M. on the third Wednesday of each month for the Regular Meeting. Mr. Chesser seconded the motion.

Discussion followed.

The vote on the motion as stated: Ayes: Mr. McCaleb. Nays: Mrs. Thornton; Mr. Wolff; Mr. Chesser; Mr. Gray; Mrs. Mears; Mr. Mallette; Mrs. Gordy; and Mr. Hart.

Mrs. Thornton made a motion to amend the Rules to have two Regular Meetings per month on the first Wednesday and the third Wednesday, and that the meetings be conducted as written for Regular Meetings; specifically allowing Public Participation, and that the meetings would be held at Metompkin Elementary School in Parksley, if available, or at the Board Chambers in Accomac, with both meetings beginning at 5:00PM. The change in the Rules of Procedure would be effective after thirty days. Mr. Gray seconded the motion.

Discussion followed.

Mrs. Thornton amended the motion to meet at the Board Chambers in Accomac on the first Wednesday of the month. Mr. Gray accepted the amendment.

Ayes: Mrs. Gordy; Mrs. Thornton; Mr. Wolff; Mr. Chesser; Mr. Gray; Mrs. Mears; Mr. Mallette; and Mr. Hart. Nays: Mr. McCaleb.

Land Use Assessment Values Established by SLEAC

George Parker of Save Our Necks (SONS) presented the data compiled from research during the summer of 2008 of select 128 subdivisions having received Preliminary Plat Approval between January 1, 2004 and May 31, 2008. Mr. Parker distributed copies of a summation of the report and pertinent sections of the Code of Virginia and the Accomack County Code. Mr. Parker responded to comments from the Board.

The focus of the study was to determine the status of the following:

- Proper enforcement of time restrictions for performance by developers;
- The likely cost to County taxpayers of subdivision build-out;
- Proper application of the Property Tax Policy

Mrs. Thornton made a motion to place the matter on the Agenda of a Regular Meeting within thirty days, requesting a report in response from the County Attorney and appropriate department heads, inviting Mr. Parker to attend. Mr. Chesser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Mallette absent.

Mr. McCaleb made a motion that the Board send SONS a letter of appreciation for the report. Mrs. Thornton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Mallette absent.

Requests for Tax Exempt Status

County Administrator Steven B. Miner reported that an inquiry from the County of Accomack E. S. Coalition Against Domestic Violence had raised the issue of the need for establishment of a County policy concerning requests for tax-exempt status.

County Attorney Mark Taylor provided the legal reasons for the authority to grant tax-exempt status relegated to the local level. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Miner responded to comments and questions from the Board.

Strategic Work Plan

The County Administrator addressed the Board concerning the previous and current Strategic Work Plan, including the completed items, items in progress, and those not yet initiated.

The following staff updated the Board on Strategic Work Plan issues within their respective division/department and responded to questions from the Board.

- County Director of Economic and Community Development Larry Forbes:
 - Route 13 Corridor
 - Rural Residential District Rezoning
 - Village Development Divisions
 - Economic Opportunity Overlay District
 - Affordable Housing Opportunities
 - Debris and Blight Removal
- County Director of Public Works Stewart Hall:
 - Solid Waste issues
 - Convenience Centers
 - Recycling
 - Clean-Up Days – Spring and Fall
 - Assign-A-Highway Program
- County Administrator Steven B. Miner
 - Development of Public Water and Sewer Capacity
 - Capital Improvement Program

- Real Estate Assessment Schedule
- Improving Surface and Ground Water on the Seaside
- Regional Stormwater Management Ordinance
- Providing Comprehensive Equitable Fire and Emergency Management Services throughout the County

Off-Shore Drilling

Mr. Wolff left the table to address the Board from the floor concerning the request presented at the previous Regular Meeting for a Resolution of Support for No Off-Shore Drilling off the coast of Virginia, particularly in the areas of operation for NASA, the Navy, MARS, NOAA, and Orbital Sciences, and provided information and maps requested at that time. Mr. Wolff responded to comments and questions from the Board.

Mrs. Thornton suggested that staff prepare a Resolution for presentation at the next Regular Meeting.

Tax Relief for the Elderly

County Administrator Steven B. Miner reported that there had been a change in legislation regarding the maximum income allowed for consideration of Tax Relief for the Elderly.

County Attorney Mark Taylor provided an explanation of the Exemption from or Deferral of Tax Relief for Elderly or Handicapped Persons. The Code of Virginia amended the Maximum Total Household Income to \$50,000, effective July 1, 2009. Accomack County Code currently contains a limit of \$22,000. Potential impacts to the County budget have not been calculated.

Discussion followed.

Mrs. Thornton suggested raising the Maximum Total Household Income for Tax Relief for Elderly and Handicapped Persons to \$28,000, the Medium Household Income in Accomack County.

Adjournment

Mrs. Thornton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53PM. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion.

Chair