

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the County of Accomack held in the Cafetorium of Metompkin Elementary School in Parksley on the 11th day of May, A.D., 2009.

Members Present: Steve D. Mallette, Chair
Laura Belle Gordy, Vice Chair
Wanda J. Thornton
Ron S. Wolff
Grayson Chesser
Sandra Hart Mears
Donald L. Hart, Jr. E. Philip McCaleb

Members Absent: John Charles "Jack" Gray

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 with a prayer by Mr. Hart, after which the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Adoption of Agenda

County Treasurer Dana Bundick requested moving Item 9a. to 7. Report of Public Officials.

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

Highway Matters

Monthly Report

Mr. Robert Isdell, Acting Residency Administrator, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), reported on VDOT projects and activities, and responded to questions and comments from the Board.

Accomack County Public Schools

W. Richard Bull, Division Superintendent, Accomack County Public Schools, summarized his monthly report, and responded to questions from the Board.

Treasurer's Report

Delinquent Real Estate Tax Sales

County Treasurer Dana Bundick introduced James Elliott, an attorney from Yorktown hired by the County to collect delinquent real estate taxes, and provided a summary of the results of his collection actions. Mrs. Bundick, Mr. Elliott, and County Attorney Mark Taylor responded to comments and questions from the Board.

Collection of Delinquent Taxes Owed by County Employees

Mrs. Bundick and Mr. Taylor responded to comments and questions from the Board concerning collecting delinquent taxes owed by County and School Board employees through payment arrangements and payroll garnishments.

Director of Public Safety

EMT Equalization – Tangier Island Issues

County Director of Public Safety Jason Loftus reported requests from Tangier Island concerning upgrades to education and equipment to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) on the island.

The Chair joined the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

The Chair suspended discussion until the Board returned from Closed Session.

Closed Meeting

Mrs. Mears made a motion that the Board go into closed meeting for the following purposes pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Mr. McCaleb seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Mallette; Mr. Wolff; Mr. Chesser; Mrs. Mears; and Mr. McCaleb. Nays: Mrs. Gordy; Mrs. Thornton; and Mr. Hart. Absent: Mr. Gray.

1. Pursuant to §2.2-3711, Subsection (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for:
 - a. discussion and interviews with regard to appointments to the Water and Sewer Authority/Public Service Authority;
 - b. discussion related to assignment of personnel; and
2. Pursuant to §2.2-3711, Subsection (A) (5) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for the discussion concerning 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.

Mr. Hart left the meeting at 7:00PM

Open Meeting

The Chair declared the meeting open to the public.

Certification of Closed Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Hart and seconded by Mr. Mallette, a roll call vote was taken pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia immediately after reconvening in Open Meeting, at which time each member certified by his vote that the only matters discussed during the Closed Meeting were (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements under this chapter and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened.

Aye to statements (i) and (ii): Mr. Wolff Mr. Mallette
 Mr. Chesser Mr. McCaleb
 Mrs. Mears
Abstain from statement (i) and Aye to statement (ii): Mrs. Gordy
 Mrs. Thornton
Absent: Mr. Hart
 Mr. Gray

Department of Social Services Insurance

Mr. Mason provided an overview of the request from the Department of Social Services, addressing specifically setting employee match rates by classifications of employees. Mr. Mason and Mrs. Mary Parker, Accomack County Department of Social Services, responded to questions from the Board.

Amending the Board of Supervisors' Rules of Procedure

Mrs. Thornton made a motion to approve the following amendments to the Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedures. Mr. Wolff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Hart and Mr. Gray absent.

- i) Start all meetings at 5:00P.M.;
- ii) Add Public Comment to the first Monthly Meeting;
- iii) Move Highway Matters Monthly Report from VDOT to the second Monthly Meeting
- iv) Move Reports of Public Officials to the second Monthly Meeting

Director of Public Safety (cont'd)

The Chair recalled Mr. Loftus to the podium.

Mr. Loftus stated that the following issues were in need of consideration by the Board:

- i) Tangier Island's requests for career staff (paid EMT) and a licensed ambulance;
- ii) Career staff request consideration, with the following recommendations:
 - a) County staff develop procedures for hiring career staff;

- b) Establish recommended guidelines to determine criteria for staffing requests; and
- c) Develop proposals for funding of staff

Discussion of recommendation a) followed.

Mrs. Mears made a motion to direct staff to work on guidelines and procedures for hiring of career EMS staff. Mrs. Gordy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Hart and Mr. Gray absent.

Discussion of recommendation b) followed, with Mr. Loftus and Mr. Mason responding to questions from the Board.

Mrs. Gordy made a motion that the Board not entertain career EMS staffing requests pending development of the guidelines and procedures and development of funding proposals. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Mallette; Mrs. Gordy; Mr. Wolff; Mr. Chesser; Mrs. Mears; and Mr. McCaleb. Abstain: Mrs. Thornton. Absent: Mr. Hart and Mr. Gray.

9-1-1 Center FEMA Grant Request for Authorization

Mr. Loftus presented a request, on behalf of 9-1-1 Center Director Jeffery Flournoy, to apply through the County Department of Public Safety for a FEMA Grant of \$804,000 for radio and infrastructure repairs. The grant would require a 10 percent local match of \$84,000; \$20,000 would be taken from the Capital Improvement Fund for the 9-1-1 Center, with the remainder requested in \$1,000 contributions from each of the volunteer fire departments.

Mr. Wolff made a motion to authorize 9-1-1 Center Director Jeffery Flournoy to apply for a FEMA Grant through the Accomack County Department of Public Safety, in the amount of \$804,000, with the 10 percent local match met by 9-1-1 Center Capital Improvement Funds and local volunteer fire department contributions. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Hart and Mr. Gray absent.

Public Service Authority

Mr. Miner distributed information concerning the required elements of advertising the Public Service Authority. After discussion, the Board agreed by consensus to place the information on the County website and to place discussion of the PSA in general on the May 20 Meeting Agenda.

Mr. McCaleb asked Mr. Taylor to explain the required conditions and procedures for exercising eminent domain or land seizure for the PSA service lines. Mr. Taylor stated that the Board had previously passed a motion to restrain from eminent domain, in response to a New London, Connecticut eminent domain case, and continued by providing explanations of the process and compensation involved.

Discussion continued.

Adjournment

Mrs. Thornton made a motion to adjourn at 9:10P.M. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair