

VIRGINIA: AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF AMELIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD AT THE AMELIA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2022.

PARTICIPANTS:

DAVID M. FELTS	District 1
DEXTER JONES	District 2
SHAUN WEYANT	District 3
H. JOSEPH EASTER, IV	District 4
TODD ROBINSON	District 5

Board of Supervisors

A. TAYLOR HARVIE, III, County Administrator
ASHLEY GUNN, Assistant Administrator
HOLLY P. STEELE, Director of Community Development
JEFF GORE, County Attorney

Chairman Felts called the September 21, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Amelia County Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 P.M. and determined there was a quorum with all five members participating. Supervisor Felts offered the invocation, and everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Honor was given to the Dixie Youth Baseball Team as World Series Champions.
 - Speakers: Richard LeSueur, Frank Shanaberger, Mark Borum, Tim Boggs, DD Edwards.
 - Appreciation for invite and congratulations were given to team
 - 61st District Delegate Tommy Wright presented the Delegates' Resolution, and the Governor's Letter.
 - County Resolution was read by the County Administrator.
 - Awards were presented to team members.
- New County Finance Director, Josh Worrell, was introduced by County Administrator.
- Recognition was given to County Administrative Assistant, Brenda Arthur, for her dedication and congratulations was given on her retirement at the end of the month.
- The following minutes were approved with changes on a motion by Supervisor Easter
 - August 17, 2022 Regular Meeting
- The August Financial reports were approved on a motion by Supervisor Weyant

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Jay Griles Chair of the Hindle Building Committee spoke of the request by the committee in the summer of 2020 to perform a Hazardous Material Analysis and Structural Assessment that was completed with the assistance of County Administration. After a Feasibility Study, it was concluded that the building should be utilized as a community center. He mentioned the current Board of Supervisors approved a budget of \$300,000 for the engineering design to be performed for renovation and requests the board to direct the county administration to proceed with Publishing an RFP for the engineering work.
- Bobby Lipes spoke of the condition of the new 360 bridge and the significant bump on either side. He stated that most of the county roads are as well. There's Significant brush overgrowth down Rt 612. He mentioned that he recommends tearing the Hindle building down instead of putting more money into it.
- Mickey Hodges spoke about IT security concerns with the county. He states there is not definitive information on the Committee that was formed and there may be conflict of interest with the members. Request more clarity about this. Recommends past incident with a hack that occurred. States that something needs to be done about it so it doesn't happen again.

STAFF/COMMITTEE/ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- VDOT

Rebecca Worley, of VDOT, gave a report on road maintenance, studies, and projects in the County.

- Maintenance

- Ongoing asphalt patching countywide
 - Completed routes include Rt 640 and Rt 713, with surface treatments throughout county
- 35% complete with 2nd round of secondary route mowing and continue to do slope mowing
- Preparations for snow season are being done

- Traffic Studies/Special Requests

- Rt360 speed study is still ongoing
- Sent letters to all candidates for this November's elections to keep signs out of the right-of-way

- Construction

- Surface Treatment operations started in Amelia County and are expected to continue into late October. 612 is on the schedule.
- Rt 632 completed on August 24th
- Rt 621 is still on schedule for completion by November 4th.
- Stated that in the last fiscal year they've spent \$400k in just Amelia County, which is more than most counties, but will continue to address the issue on pruning limbs and brush.

- ❖ Supervisor Easter brought up that he agrees with Mr. Lipes regarding Rt 614 being rough and needs to be addressed. Ms. Green concluded that Supervisor Felts has brought it up prior to this board meeting. So, it is being reviewed and will be addressed.

- School Board

Dr. Harper and Mr. Trump reported on Amelia School Board activities and financial reports.

- Reminded the Board of the facilities tour on September 29th.
- Homecoming parade and football game is scheduled.
- Stated they have received approval to use ESSR Funds to enlarge the back bus loop and front car loop and doesn't require any local funds.
- CTE Task Force reviewed top employers in Amelia and surrounding counties as well as the top career and technical education areas of interest for Amelia students. Will make recommendations in October.
- Discussed discrepancies in payroll.
- Discussed some delays in invoicing for operations and maintenance costs. Has since been resolved and will show on the September Financial Reports

❖ School Appropriation of Funds for \$79,999.99: Supervisor Easter made motion to approve; 5-0 Approved.

- **Supervisor/committee meeting reports:**

- Supervisor Robinson reports:

- Attended CPMT meeting

- Supervisor Easter reports:

- Mentioned that Crossroads will be presenting tonight.
- Stated to Mr. Griles regarding the Hindle Building that the CIP list isn't clear about the funding for 2023 and that it wasn't an actual item on the CIP list. He requests that someone look into it and return with a current status. Offered his assistance working with the Director of Finance to clean up the list.

- Supervisor Weyant reports:

- Attended the Library meeting. He mentioned that the library is interviewing for a new librarian due to Joe Hames stepping down at the end of the month. Due to short staff, the library committee voted to close the library on Mondays starting October 1st until positions can be filled.
- Stated that he and Supervisor Easter attended the CTE committee meeting. Mentioned that he supports everything that they're doing with the Trades and allowing the community their input. He thanked Dr. Harper and School Administrators for allowing the kids out for the World Series Parade.

- Supervisor Jones reported:

- (Microphone did not pick up what was said)

- Supervisor Felts reported:

- Attended several meetings including EMS and Piedmont.

✚ Mike Whitaker gave an update on media committee of the American Revolution. Stated he reached out to several sources for input. 250 commission will formulate and implement a program for the Grassroots and inclusive observation of the 250th anniversary of the independence of the U.S. and the Revolutionary war in Amelia County.

- Piedmont Area Veterans Council (PAVC)

- Stated appreciation of Taylor for all the assistance he's provided.
- Explained what services they have been providing for veterans and their spouses. They provide mental health appointments.

- They recently purchased a tract of land to build a permanent location.
- Stated how passionate each volunteer is and how appreciative they are of the county's support.
- Stated they've had more homeless veterans this year than last and presented a Purple Heart Parking sign to the County.
- Southside Center for Violence Prevention Funds Request
 - Supervisor Easter stated there's a lot of uncertainty with what the state says and what the representative says.
 - Chairman Felts agreed with Supervisor Easter and suggested instead of just saying no that the board tables the item for a month or two and then review it at that time in hopes the State may have positive feedback.
 - Supervisor Robinson requested to see items such as Write-ups and all the conflicts the state is having with the organization as well as what's being done to correct it before any funding is approved
 - Supervisor Jones made a motion to table the request until an action plan is presented and re-examined. 5-0; motion approved to table request.
- Crossroads Community Services Board
 - Supervisor Easter shows appreciation for Dr. Moore and her dedication to the organization. Dr. Moore thanks the board and community.
 - Dr. Moore states the purpose and goals of the organization is to prevent and treat the occurrence of mental illness, intellectual disability, substance abuse, and co-occurring disorders.
 - Stated that Amelia contributed \$69,000 last year and she promises to deliver data results to provide to the board, so they have a better understanding about what the organization does.
 - Stated that the organization received a grant and discussed having a program for the Detention Center.
- Piedmont Regional Juvenile Detention Center
 - Christina Sherriff and Steven Niez presented the project of what needs to be replaced at the Detention Center with the estimated contribution of a \$467,000 from Amelia County. The Total cost is \$2.8M which includes a 15-year plan.
 - Stated that a lot of mechanical items are beyond its use of life. Discussed details of those items.
 - Supervisor Easter asked why they think the stated items have gotten to the state that they're in. Ms. Sherriff stated that maintenance has been differed for various reasons.

- Supervisor Easter continues to express concerns and hesitation about allocating any funds until answers are given on what will be done to prevent what has happened in the past should funds be approved
 - Supervisor Felts recommends deferring until October.
 - Supervisor Robinson inquired about replacing the stated items in phases and that it's not the best time to purchase HVAC products.
 - Supervisor Easter made a motion to deny the request for funding. 2-3; motion not approved.
 - Supervisor Robinson made a motion to defer it to next month so more information can be received. 3-2; motion approved.
- ❖ Supervisor Easter reminds the board that while funds are being approved for different items, the request for the Elderly Tax issue should be addressed.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- **Surplus Policy:**
 - Supervisor Robinson made a motion to approve. 5-0; motion approved.
 - **VML/VACO Advisory Service Agreement:**
 - Supervisor Easter expresses the lack of use of the services and recommends not renewing unless the services are utilized.
 - No Action taken at this time.
 - **Burn Ban Fire Ordinance:**
 - Chairman Felts, Kenneth Llewellyn, Dexter Jones clarifies the purpose of this ordinance.
 - This allows the Fire Department to enter premises and put fire out as well as allowing to activate the burn ban without a special meeting to do so.
 - Supervisor Jones made a motion to pass the ordinance. 5-0; motion approved.
 - **Special Event Permit and Road Closure Resolution- ACHS Homecoming Parade:**
 - Supervisor Easter made a motion to approve both items. 5-0; motion approved.
 - **Med-Flight Contribution Increase Request:**
 - Supervisor Robinson made a motion to approve. 5-0; motion approved.
- ⚡ An Email was sent into Public Comments email account and due to technical difficulties, it was not read during Public Comments portion of the meeting. The email was read after Med-Flight voting.
- The email was sent by Laura Walsh, the Commissioner of Revenue. She brought up that she would like to have the Tax for the Disabled and Elderly item addressed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Public Hearing- Special Exception Permit- Shooting Range:**
 - Grace Weyant read a letter from Ms. Carly, who is an adjoining neighbor. The letter was in opposition of the permit.
 - Letters from Sheredine Young (mailed in and received September 14th) and Ruby Daily (from Planning Commission meeting but requested to be read at BoS meeting) in Opposition of the permit.
 - Supervisor Robinson made a motion to deny. 5-0; motion approved

- Public Hearing- Ordinance Text Amendment- Alternative Energy Ordinance:
 - Director of Community Development stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval 10-0 as it is.
 - Lane Dunn Spoke in opposition of the Ordinance setback requirements as it is.
 - JoAnne Webb Spoke in opposition to the Ordinance setback requirements as it is
 - Xin Wang Spoke in opposition of the Ordinance setback requirements as it is
 - Bobby Lipes spoke against solar farm altogether. He spoke in favor of the Setback and stated he prefers setback requirements to be greater.
- Public Hearing- Ordinance Text Amendment- Alternative Energy Ordinance (Cont'd):
 - Tom Farleigh spoke against setback requirements but is in favor of the other items listed in ordinance.
 - Skyler (Energy Rights) Spoke against the setback requirements in ordinance. Recommends modeling ordinance off other counties
 - Logan Vaughn Spoke against the setback requirements in ordinance.
 - Tyson Hutt (solar developer) spoke against setbacks in ordinance and states that their company is in no rush and offers their assistance. Recommends BoS takes their time in making a final decision on ordinance.
 - Grace Weyant spoke against setback requirements.
 - Supervisor Easter and Weyant spoke against the ordinance as it is. Recommends adjusting setback requirements because its overreaching in property ownership.
 - Supervisor Jones stated he prefers croplands over Solar farms. Stated his concern that were losing a lot of farmlands as it is. Stated he is concerned about the possibility of decreasing food supply and that it's a necessity over having "bright lights."
 - Supervisor Robinson made a motion to defer ordinance until a joint meeting with the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors on October 24th. 5-0; Approved motion.
- Public Hearing- Comprehensive Plan Amendment- Utility Scale Solar:
 - Supervisor Easter spoke against this Comprehensive Plan.
 - Director of Community Development stated that Planning Commission voted 10-0 recommending approval.
 - Skylar from (Energy Rights) Spoke against the Comprehensive Plan. Gave an example of sheep farming on solar farm.
 - Wayne Merritt asked how the land should be taxed and concerns regarding property rights.
 - Supervisor Robinson motioned to defer until after the joint meeting with the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisor. 5-0; motion approved.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- CW DOT Sidewalk project FY23/24 Funding Award:
 - County Administrator recommended forming a group with VML/VACO to create a plan on the project.
 - Supervisor Weyant made a motion to form a committee for this item. 5-0; Motion approved
- ❖ Supervisor Weyant shared his appreciation for everything that Holly Steele has done.

CLOSED MEETING, PURSUANT TO CODE OF VIRGINIA §2.2-3711-A-3

- Attorney Jeff Gore made a motion to go into closed session with the EDA. 5-0; Motion Approved
- EDA convened their committee to go into closed session with Board of Supervisors.

A. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely

affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

B. After entering into open session, the Board certified by roll call that only items allowed by Code of Virginia §2.2-3711-A3 were discussed. The vote was as follows:

C. VOTE: AYES: NAYS: NONE

- District 1 - Supervisor Felts
- District 2 - Supervisor Jones
- District 3 - Supervisor Weyant
- District 4 - Supervisor Easter
- District 5 - Supervisor Robinson

BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

District 1-The Honorable David M. Felts

- No comments

District 2-The Honorable Dexter Jones

- No Comments

District 3-The Honorable Shaun Weyant

- No comments

District 4-The Honorable H. Joseph Easter, IV

- No comments

X 

A. Taylor Harvie, III
Amelia County Administrator

X 

David M. Felts, Jr., Chairman
Amelia County Board of Supervisors