

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY VIRGINIA, HELD IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 150 SOUTH MAIN STREET LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA ON MONDAY APRIL 26, 2010 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** CHAIRMAN A.W. LEWIS, JR.  
**MEMBERS:** C.R. COMSTOCK, M.R. SMITH, R.H. RIEGEL  
**ABSENT:** R.S. FORD  
**CLERK OF BOARD:** CLAIRE A. COLLINS  
**FISCAL DIRECTOR:** ROBERT E. CLAYTOR  
**COUNTY ATTORNEY:** VICKIE L. HUFFMAN  
**STAFF:** SAM CRICKENBERGER, CHRIS SLAYDON

**Call to Order**

Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order, delivered the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item(s) to be Added to Agenda**

No items were added.

**Citizens' Comments**

Chairman Lewis called for citizen comment but none was offered.

**Report from Treasurer on Delinquent Taxes**

Ms. Carol Hines, Treasurer, gave the Board an update on the collection of delinquent taxes and reminded the Board she had provided the same delinquent list to them last fall. The Board confirmed that the request was to provide information in response to public comments the Board received during the April 21<sup>st</sup> public hearing on the proposed FY2010-2011 budget, not a criticism of Ms. Hines and her office.

**Call to Order Solid Waste Authority Meeting (if needed)**

The Authority meeting was cancelled but Ms. Huffman reported on status of the draft contract being negotiated and she expects a response from Rockbridge Resource Recovery's legal counsel by mid-week.

**Natural Bridge Gym Steering Committee Request**

Mr. Rick Siler and Greg McDaniel, Committee representatives, were present to field questions from the Board. The Gym Committee voted in favor to request the use of the Annex Building adjacent to the gym (commonly referred to as the vocational building) as a community center. It is currently being used for storage for gym items. As stated in an email to Ms. Collins from Mr. Robbie Faulkner (included in the Board packet) the Committee sees the use of this building as a potential revenue source as well as an operational cost saving for the gym. Minor events now being conducted at the gym could be held in the smaller building therefore lower utility costs. Supervisor Comstock stated he felt it would be premature for the Board to respond to this request because more information is needed notably the costs involved in the conversion of the

annex. Supervisor Smith stated he could not support expending any more money on the complex. Mr. Crickenberger also noted he had shown this annex building to several economic development prospects. Supervisor Riegel agreed more information was needed especially concerning utility costs. Chairman Lewis stated the Board will take under advisement and obtain additional information necessary to consider the request.

### **Discussion of VDOT's Comprehensive Roadside Management Program**

Mr. Slaydon gave a summary of the program, participated in the Board's discussion and fielded questions from the Board.

### **Discussion on Community Pride Program**

Supervisor Riegel voiced his frustration with chronic littering throughout the County and questioned whether the Board was interested in pursuing a program (involving education and enforcement) to control littering and improve the appearance of the County. The consensus of the Board was there was "guarded interest" of pursuing such a program but there was apparent concern about the enforcement component of the program.

### **Appointments to Boards and Commission**

#### **Industrial Development Authority of Rockbridge County**

It was noted there were two vacancies on the County IDA. Supervisor Smith moved to reappoint Mr. Carl Newcomer and Mr. B.G. Locher, Jr. to the County IDA. Supervisor Comstock provided the second. Imposing term limits and how to encourage residents to apply to serve on the various boards and commission were topics briefly discussed by the Board. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Comstock, Smith, Riegel, Lewis  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Ford

#### **Planning Commission**

Supervisor Smith moved to reappoint Mr. David Winston to the Planning Commission and Supervisor Riegel provided the second. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Comstock, Smith, Riegel, Lewis  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Ford

#### **Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission**

Supervisor Smith moved to appoint Claire Collins to the CSPDC and Supervisor Riegel provided the second. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Comstock, Smith, Riegel, Lewis  
NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ford

### **Continued Discussion on Proposed Budget**

The Board held a lengthy discussion on possible changes to the proposed budget. Supervisor Comstock requested the Board consider adding \$3,000 to support 4-H portion of program at the Regional Fair.

He added the final budget from the Jail Commission includes a \$150,000 additional cost to the County due to the shortfall. Supervisor Comstock reported final figures from the state show cuts totaling \$294,500. He noted the jail budget had been decreased and noted the County now has 75% of jail population.

It was noted the RATS funding request came in \$10,500 less than amount requested last year. Also noted the Cities of Lexington and Buena Vista has \$4,000 plus allocated in budget for the Rental Assistance Program.

Lastly, the Board discussed how the Jail will address specific requirements made by the Compensation Board especially in reference to required furloughs being implemented.

### **Public Hearings**

#### **Virginia Department of Transportation Six Year Secondary Road Plan**

Ms. Susan Hammond, VDOT regional representative, presented the plan to the Board. She noted the addition of the three bridge projects and announced the Country Club Road project would possibly be phased improvements. The engineering for drainage of this project is being done now. Supervisor Smith questioned what has happened with accumulated money on the Long Hollow project. Ms. Hammond responded the Long Hollow project is still listed, but no commitment on when the federal money will be available because the County is competing with other localities for these dollars. The major challenge is the need to secure an additional \$6.7 million. Ms. Hammond offered the option of using some of the accumulated funds for the bridge replacement projects. She also noted that with Rural Rustic projects, VDOT at least likes to have agreement of property owners along the road. After further examination action was postponed until the next meeting to allow Ms. Hammond to investigate project discrepancies /omissions from the plan.

#### **Special Exception Permit for Public Service Authority Pump Station**

Ms. Karen Austin, PSA Director, informed the Board the Authority has been saving money for some time to move their sewage pump station uphill. The existing station is older than 30 years and the time has come to replace the pump station. Chairman Lewis called for public comment but none was offered. Supervisor Comstock moved to adopt the Ordinance granting a special exception permit to the PSA for relocation of a sewage pump station. Supervisor Smith provided the second and motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**(INSERT ORDINANCE RELOCATION OF PUMP STATION)**

(Ordinance on file in the Clerk of the Board's Office)

AYES: Comstock, Smith, Riegel, Lewis

NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Ford

**Special Exception Permit for PSA Water Transmission Line**

Mr. Crickenberger explained the PSA application for a special exception permit to upgrade their six inch water transmission line along Old Buena Vista Road to a sixteen inch line. The Board discussed whose responsibility it would be to provide funding for the project as well as the cost estimate. No public comment was made. Supervisor Comstock moved to adopt the Ordinance as presented and Supervisor Smith provided the second. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**(INSERT ORDINANCE PSA WATER TRANSMISSION LINE)**

(Ordinance is on file in the Clerk of the Board's Office)

AYES: Comstock, Smith, Riegel, Lewis  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Ford

**Special Exception Permit for Application of Robert Merchant for Wind Turbine**

Mr. Merchant indicated he expected to reduce his energy bill in half with the installation of the wind turbine. During the public comment period, everyone spoke in favor of the project. Supervisor Comstock moved to adopt the Ordinance as presented and Supervisor Smith provided the second. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**(INSERT ORDINANCE GRANTING MERCHANT APPLICATION FOR TURBINE)**

(Ordinance is on file in the Clerk of the Board's Office)

AYES: Comstock, Smith, Riegel, Lewis  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Ford

**Sign Ordinance Amendments on Premise Business Signs and Cottage Industries**

Mr. Crickenberger reminded the Board directed him to draft an amendment to the sign ordinance to facilitate recognition of businesses along the public road corridor. Chairman Lewis commented he thought the amendments reflect County efforts to work with the business community. Mr. Joe Reinhart spoke in favor of the changes during the public comment period. Supervisor Smith moved to adopt the Ordinance as presented and Supervisor Comstock provided the second. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**(INSERT SIGN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT ON PREMISE BUSINESS SIGNS)**

(Ordinance is on file in the Clerk of the Board's Office)

AYES: Comstock, Smith, Riegel, Lewis  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Ford

### **CONTINUATION OF EARLIER BUDGET DISCUSSION**

The Board heard from several citizens whose discussion/statement focused on 1) opposition of the closing of Effinger Elementary and 2) dissatisfaction of how delinquent taxes are aggressively collected.

### **Adjournment or Continuation of Meeting**

The meeting was continued until Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. to be held in the Board Room.