

AT A WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY,
VIRGINIA HELD IN THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING AT
150 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2017 AT 4:30 P.M.

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN D.W. HINTY, JR.
VICE CHAIRMAN J.M. HIGGINS,
R.S. FORD, R.R. CAMPBELL, A.W. LEWIS, JR.

CLERK TO THE BOARD: S. H. SUTER
COUNTY ATTORNEY: V.L. HUFFMAN

Chairman Hinty convened the Work Session at 4:30 p.m.

FY2017 VASAP Annual Report Presentation

Fiscal Services Director Steven Bolster briefly reviewed his report, which advised that the VASAP Policy Board approved the FY 2017 Annual report on October 10th. He then introduced VASAP's Executive Director, Miles Bobbitt.

Mr. Bobbitt provided an overview of the FY 2017 VASAP Report which included the following information:

*Valley ASAP was formed in 1977 making this year its 40th anniversary

*There were 34 alcohol-related crashes in Rockbridge County last year, two (2) of those were fatalities.

*Every day in Virginia two (2) people die in an automobile or road accident.

*VASAP was created in Fairfax County in 1972 and expanded into Staunton in 1977; Rockbridge County's office opened in 2013; in the 1980's the General Assembly created the Commission on ASAP.

*VASAP is working very hard with people who were convicted of driving under the influence to provide them with education to prevent them from future DUI's.

*There are 24 VASAP programs offered across the state to include Driver Improvement Clinics, DUI Convictions, and Young Offender.

*VASAP received 31 young offender referrals from General District Court last year; 1300 referrals total last year; and referrals are dropping due to decreased arrests across the state likely due to social media, Uber, and other technology sources that allow people to contact another source for a ride and because the laws have become more strict.

Supervisor Ford asked what the many "other" referrals in the annual report were.

Mr. Bobbitt replied that sometimes DMV will require individuals to complete a 1 hour interview with VASAP if they have too many points on their record or are caught driving on a suspended license. Other referrals could be traffic probation referrals, or someone convicted of speeding may be able to have the charge removed from their record if they complete the Drivers Improvement Program.

Supervisor Lewis shared that, when looking at referrals by jurisdiction, the County stands out. He asked why we have more referrals than Augusta County, with a lower population.

Mr. Bobbitt advised that the County has 907 speeding monitoring cases, which are mainly due to stops on I 81. He added that community service referrals inflate our numbers as well.

County Administrator Spencer Suter added that Rockbridge County has a high number of referrals due to the extensive use of the Traffic Probation Program.

Mr. Bobbitt shared that Judge Saunders is a big advocate of the Traffic Probation Program. He added that he also advocates placing a speeder in jail for one night for every MPH in excess of 90, because he is very concerned with excessive speeding. In addition he likes to provide citizens a chance to keep their record clean.

Mr. Suter noted that Fiscal Services Director Steven Bolster is Vice Chairman of the VASAP Board and may become Chairman soon.

Mr. Bobbitt advised that he is the third Director of VASAP since it was created in 1977. He then took a moment to commend Rockbridge County staff for being easy to work with and willing to help when needed.

Mr. Bolster commended Mr. Bobbitt and his team for their efforts.

Update on RARO Activities

County Administrator Spencer Suter introduced RARO Director John "Rocky" Trudgeon.

Mr. Trudgeon introduced Scott Rogers, who is RARO's incoming Chairman, and David Sigler, one of Lexington City's representatives on the RARO Board. Mr. Trudgeon then provided the following update:

*About 60% of the RARO participants are from the County

*We have never had as many youth boys playing tackle football as this year (over 200 players)

*RARO is now using online registration

*RARO offers registration waivers for anyone who receives free or reduced lunch at school

*RARO is currently utilizing fields at Fairfield, Central, and MRMS, Natural Bridge, and soon - Rivermont School

* At 1,600, the number of participants is up 400 from last year.

Supervisor Lewis asked if the fields have noticeably suffered from the drought.

Mr. Trudgeon replied that they have.

Supervisor Higgins asked if RARO is using the fields at the Rivermont School (formerly Rockbridge Middle).

Mr. Trudgeon replied that they were used for baseball in the Spring, but that the fields have not been needed in the summer and fall.

Supervisor Higgins suggested using the old football field on top of the hill next to the Rivermont School.

Mr. Trudgeon replied that there hasn't been a need to use it thus far, but he understands that it is available for RARO's use.

Supervisor Ford asked for an update on the Brewbaker Annex project.

Mr. Trudgeon shared his frustration that sometimes the wheels of government turn slower than we would like. He advised that RARO has had to do a study that he was unaware of at the beginning, which they needed Planning Commission and Council approval, and now they need an erosion and sediment control study.

Supervisor Lewis shared his frustration also. He reminded everyone that, several years ago, the County and City worked very hard to get funding mechanisms in place and the County made an investment; therefore, for it not to come to fruition thus far is a bit frustrating.

Mr. Trudgeon then commended the Board for allowing Buena Vista to be a part of RARO.

Chairman Hinty asked Finance Director Steven Bolster where the funds are being kept that are going towards the fields at the High School.

Mr. Bolster replied that those funds are in a restricted account with the City of Lexington.

Added Item

Committee Report

Supervisor Campbell advised that the Chamber of Commerce had met earlier in the day and received a presentation on the YMCA. He shared that the Y has begun a program at Natural Bridge Elementary and Fairfield Elementary. He further shared that the Y plans to begin a basketball program for children in 3rd and 4th grades. Supervisor Campbell advised that the Y would like to build its own gym.

Supervisor Lewis asked if Brian Brown (Buena Vista Economic Developer) had brought up anything during that meeting about Tourism funding.

Supervisor Campbell replied that he had not.

Chairman Hinty suggested that this is a good time for the schools and the Y to get together - now that there is a new School Superintendent.

With no further items to discuss, Chairman Hinty closed the work session at 4:58 P.M.

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY,
VIRGINIA HELD IN THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING AT
150 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2017 AT 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN D.W. HINTY JR, VICE CHAIRMAN J.M. HIGGINS,
R.S. FORD, A.W. LEWIS, JR., R.R. CAMPBELL

CLERK TO THE BOARD: S. H. SUTER
COUNTY ATTORNEY: V.L. HUFFMAN

Call to Order

Chairman Hinty called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He stated that Supervisor Campbell would lead the Board in the invocation and invited anyone in the audience to join if they chose to do so.

Supervisor Campbell delivered the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognitions/Presentations

VACo 10 Year Recognition for Supervisors Lewis and Ford

Chairman Hinty presented Supervisors Lewis and Ford with VACo recognitions for both serving 10 years with County government. He then commended both on behalf of the Board for their years of dedication.

Citizens' Comments

Chairman Hinty called for citizens' comments. There were none.

Items to be added to the Agenda

County Administrator Spencer Suter requested adding approval of an amended Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan Certification, after performing minor edits to the Greenhouse Village Phase II policies that were approved on October 10th.

Supervisor Higgins requested adding an appointment to the Public Service Authority (PSA).

Approval of the October 10, 2017 Minutes

Supervisor Ford moved to approve the October 10, 2017 Minutes. Supervisor Campbell provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Ford, Campbell, Lewis, Higgins, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Approval of School Appropriation Resolution

Finance Director Steven Bolster presented the School Appropriation Resolution and requested approval as presented.

Supervisor Higgins moved to approve the School Appropriation Resolution. Supervisor Lewis provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Lewis, Ford, Campbell, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 150 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2017 AT 5:30 P.M.

On motion by Supervisor Higgins, seconded by Supervisor Lewis, the Board, by record vote adopted the following appropriation resolutions:

APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

FUND 50

BE IT RESOLVED: By the Board of Supervisors of Rockbridge County, Virginia, that the following appropriations are, and the same hereby are made, for the period ending **June 30, 2018** in **FUND 50, SCHOOL FUND** and expended as follows:

Carryover Grant

IDEA Title VI-B 621 2017

4-50-62121-3300-920-100 Purchase Services.....	\$34,000.00
Subtotal \$34,000.00

New Grant

IDEA Title VI-B 611 2017

4-50-61100-1121-901-200-875 Purchased Services.....	\$14,000.00
4-50-61100-6030-901-200-875 Materials & Supplies.....	\$1,039.00
Subtotal \$15,039.00

Additional Revenue Sources

4-50-61100-8101-901-100 Instruction.....	\$38,943.00
4-50-62121-6001-902-000 Division Supplies.....	\$20.00
4-50-62120-5540-902-100 Division In-service.....	\$7,040.00
4-50-62120-5807-902-000 Division Support.....	\$200.00
Subtotal	\$46,203.00

TOTAL FUND 50 APPROPRIATIONS **\$95,242.00**

FUND 70

BE IT RESOLVED: By the Board of Supervisors of Rockbridge County, Virginia, that the following appropriations are, and the same hereby are made, for the period ending **June 30, 2018** in **FUND 70, SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION FUND** and expended as follows:

RCHS/VOTECH Performance Contracting Project

4-70-66200-8100-990-001 RCHS-VOTECH Financing Cost.....	\$95,000.00
4-70-66200-8100-990-002 RCHS-VOTECH Perf. Pgrm. Mgmt.....	\$717,807.00
4-70-66200-8100-990-003 RCHS-VOTECH Perf. Upgrades.....	\$4,422,805.00
Subtotal	\$5,235,612.00

Other RCPS Facility Upgrades

4-70-66200-8100-900-001	Other RCPS Perf. Pgrm. Mgmt.....	\$239,270.00
4-70-66200-8100-920-001	CES Performance Upgrades.....	\$81,815.00
4-70-66200-8100-930-001	ECO Performance Upgrades.....	\$98,206.00
4-70-66200-8100-940-001	FES Performance Upgrades.....	\$184,415.00
4-70-66200-8100-950-001	MRMS Performance Upgrades.....	\$212,679.00
4-70-66200-8100-960-001	MVES Performance Upgrades.....	\$136,921.00
4-70-66200-8100-970-001	NBES Performance Upgrades.....	<u>\$173,185.00</u>
Subtotal		\$1,126,491.00

TOTAL FUND 70 APPROPRIATIONS **\$6,362,103.00**

Report on the Rockbridge Regional Fair and Expo

County Administrator Spencer Suter advised that this report was at the request of Supervisor Lewis. He introduced Rockbridge Regional Fair and Expo Board Chair Steve Hart, to give an overview of the recent fair.

Mr. Hart explained that the expenses totaled about \$53,000 and income about \$55,000, leaving a profit of around \$2,000. He noted that the County contributed \$25,000, and other sponsorships and vendor fees totaled around \$20,000. He added that the ride company made about \$6,000 more than last year. Mr. Hart advised that the plan for next year's concerts will be to focus more on local entertainers. He then requested the Board's support for the upcoming year.

Supervisor Ford asked what costs were paid to the Virginia Horse Center directly, and what was donated to the Fair by the Virginia Horse Center.

Mr. Hart replied that the only direct cost paid to the VHC was for security personnel. He added that the VHC donated their facilities for the Fair at no cost.

Supervisor Higgins advised that there is a plan in place to hold one (1) 4-H livestock show next year instead of two (2) - as was done this year. He noted that this year, there were around 230 goats and sheep shown and around 30-40 cattle.

Mr. Hart advised that two (2) of the food vendors sold out of food on Friday.

Supervisor Lewis commended the efforts of the Fair Board members for working diligently on the yearlong project and for its accomplishment. He suggested having more local vendors, such as the local fire departments.

Supervisor Higgins asked Mr. Hart when he would like to see a commitment from the Board for financial support.

Mr. Hart responded that funds are desperately needed for November's payroll.

Mr. Suter noted that the funds that supported the Fair this year were appropriated in fiscal year 2017, and there would need to be additional appropriations to support the Fair now, in fiscal year 2018. He also noted that, should the Board wish to continue support of the fair in future years, it should include the appropriation in the budget.

Supervisor Higgins shared that he supported the contribution last year, which the Fair was a success, and he commended the volunteers. He then moved that the Board contribute the same amount as last year, \$25,000 in two payments.

Supervisor Lewis then requested that the Board contribute \$15,000 now, and another \$15,000 later.

Supervisor Higgins stated that he would be willing to amend his previous motion for a contribution of \$30,000 instead of \$25,000 - following Board discussion.

Supervisor Ford recommended not providing funds greater than the \$25,000 that was contributed last year, but rather awarding them as a 50/50 match to encourage other donations.

Supervisor Higgins' motion to contribute \$25,000 was still on the floor. He added language to provide the appropriation in two (2) payments: \$12,500 in November 2017; and \$12,500 in April 2018. Supervisor Lewis provided the second to his motion, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Lewis, Ford, Campbell, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Update from the Department of Social Services

County Administrator Spencer Suter briefly reviewed his board report: "At the Board's regularly scheduled work session on June 26th, Rockbridge Area Department of Social Services Director Suzanne Adcock provided the Board with an update on Social Services activities. She noted that she would continue to keep the Board updated as progress was made in her department. In keeping with her goal, she has asked to provide another update to the Board, to include advanced budget planning for FY2019. Based on my discussions with Ms. Adcock, and using budget information she has recently provided, I created a summary document focused on upcoming budget challenge - to help frame such a discussion with the Board." (The

document was included in the Board's agenda package). Mr. Suter added that Ms. Adcock would be providing additional information on the recent State Board meeting. He noted that two items on her report would impact the next budget: additional personnel; and facility rental.

Ms. Adcock shared the following updates:

- *Currently crafting mission, vision, values statement

- *Have been participating in community outreach for better relationships with the community and to help with foster homes

- *Creating new brochures

- *Attended a back-to-school event

- *Continuing challenges include: physical location need for better safety, security, and accessibility (two potential locations identified and possibly a third)

- *Staffing: Additional child protective services (CPS) staff needed (\$29,960 salary)

- *Workload numbers: FY15-16, increase of 39% referrals and 48% in accepted referrals; FY16-17, increase of 76% referrals and 107% in accepted referrals. Ms. Adcock pointed out that the local office has just as many referrals as the Cities of Charlottesville and Danville; Charlottesville has 9-10 CPS staff members, whereas the County has three.

She stated that she would be requesting funding in the upcoming budget for two additional CPS staff members. She then advised that, the previous Monday, one of the local CPS members, Peggy Sigler, was honored by Project Horizon. She also advised that the State Social Services Board

had voted to begin an investigation on the local Social Services Board - an "unprecedented" decision.

Supervisor Campbell asked Ms. Adcock why she chose to compare the local Social Services workload numbers to Charlottesville's.

Ms. Adcock replied that the County's numbers on the State's website fell in line with Charlottesville's accepted referrals.

Supervisor Lewis thanked Ms. Adcock for the update and wished her luck in filling the vacant positions.

Supervisor Higgins asked Ms. Adcock if the Social Services staff received a step increase last year in their salaries.

Ms. Adcock replied that the State doesn't actually do step increases, but that some additional funds had been provided.

Public Hearings at 6:00 p.m.

Rockbridge County- Amending Section 707 of the Land Development Regulations regarding on-site manufactured construction office trailers

Assistant Director of Community Development Chris Slaydon reviewed the current language in the Land Development Regulations and the proposed amendments/additions:

Current: A manufactured home shall only be used as a residence or as a temporary residence in conjunction with an active construction project per Section 702.02, or for an office in the Business and Industrial Districts by special exception.

Proposed- Manufactured homes shall only be used as a residence or as a temporary residence in conjunction with an active construction project per Section 702.02. In addition, manufactured homes or manufactured construction office trailers may be used for on-site field offices during the life of the construction project in the Business and Industrial Districts. Manufactured homes or manufactured construction office trailers may also be used for off-site field offices or other on-site offices upon obtaining a special exception permit.

Chairman Hinty opened the Public Hearing at 6:06 p.m. Robbie Clark of the Buffalo Magisterial District, who had signed up to speak on this hearing, declined to comment.

Chairman Hinty closed the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m.

Supervisor Lewis moved to adopt the ordinance amending the Land Development Regulations as shown below. Supervisor Ford provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Lewis, Ford, Campbell, Higgins, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA,
HELD AT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2017

Ordinance to Amend Article 7 – Use Regulations of the County of Rockbridge Land Development Regulations to Amend Section 707.00-5 to Treat On-Site Manufactured Construction Office Trailers as a Permitted Use in the General Business District (B-1) and the General Industrial District (I-1) for the Life of the Construction Project Instead of as a Use by Special Exception

WHEREAS, the Rockbridge County Planning Commission held a public hearing on this amendment to the Land Development Regulations on October 11, 2017, and recommended approval to the Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on this amendment on October 23, 2017; and,

WHEREAS, legal notice has been provided in accordance with Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended) and Section 802.04 of the County of Rockbridge Land Development Regulations; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Rockbridge County, Virginia, has determined that the provisions of this ordinance generally promote the health, safety and general welfare of the public, that the amendment is required by good zoning practice and accomplishes the objectives set forth in Va. Code Section 15.2-2200, and that the amendment serves one or more of the purposes set forth in Va. Code Section 15.2-2283 of the Code of Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors:

1. That Section 707.00-5 – Manufactured Homes, of Article 7 – Use Regulations of the Rockbridge County Land Development Regulations be amended and reenacted as follows:

**ARTICLE 7
USE REGULATIONS**

707.00 MANUFACTURED HOMES

707.00-5 Manufactured homes shall only be used as a residence or as a temporary residence in conjunction with an active construction project per [Section 702.02](#).
In addition, manufactured homes or manufactured construction office trailers may be used for on-site field offices during the life of the construction project in the Business and Industrial Districts. Manufactured homes or manufactured construction office trailers may also be used for off-site field offices or other on-site offices upon obtaining a special exception permit.

2. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect on and from the date of its adoption.

Presentation and Request by FOR Swimming

County Administrator Spencer Suter briefly reviewed his Board report:
“During FY2018 budget preparation last spring, FOR Swimming’s Chair, John

Gunner, requested consideration for an increase in the Board's contribution to FOR Swimming, in the amount of \$7,500, for a total of \$15,000. At the time, the increase was intended for a yet-to-be-determined capital improvement project. The Board subsequently agreed to pledge the funding, subject to presentation of a project deemed acceptable. In other words, the Board wished to review and understand the project prior to making a final funding decision. As such, the additional requested funds were not included in the final, FY2018 budget. Rather, the Board would need to appropriate funds, should an acceptable project be brought forth and approved by the Board.

Recently, Mr. Gunner submitted a project for consideration. Briefly stated, the proposed project involves replacement of existing equipment, with the goal of long-term energy savings. The total budget for the project is \$16,500."

He then called attention to a project overview and budget, included in the Board's agenda package, and introduced Mr. Gunner for further explanation.

He noted that if the Board is in agreement, it could authorize staff to make an appropriation of up to \$7,500 to FOR Swimming and require monthly updates on expenditures that could be shared with the Board.

Mr. Gunner reviewed each phase of the Green Energy/Energy Conservation Plan for the Community Pool:

Phase I- establishment of energy efficiency as a primary design goal

Phase II- reduction of natural gas consumption

Phase III- reduction of electrical usage

Phase IV- solar panels

Mr. Gunner advised that the Board's contribution would go towards phase III. He added that he has received plenty of praise from visitors to the area regarding the amenity of being able to swim while vacationing in the area.

Supervisor Ford asked Mr. Gunner if he had considered asking the Tourism Board for contributions.

Mr. Gunner replied that he had not asked them, but that it is a great idea. He added that he often hears from retirees in the area who are happy to have the pool, as it is wonderful exercise for senior citizens.

FOR Pool and Aquatics Director Leslie Ayers explained that, for the past two springs, they have offered swimming lessons for all 6th grade students at Maury River Middle School. She stated that there was no charge for the lessons; she is now working on scheduling lessons for students at Central Elementary - to be followed by any other school who wishes to participate in the free lessons. Ms. Ayers added that they are looking into partnering with the County's pools to provide lessons there as well. She then noted that about half of the pool's membership is retired residents.

With regard to the recent 6th grade class who participated in the free swimming lessons, Supervisor Ford asked if all of the students participated.

Ms. Ayres replied that almost every child had participated; however, there is the occasional one or two whose parents would not allow them to participate because the parents have fear of the water.

Supervisor Higgins moved to authorize staff to make an appropriation of \$7,500 to FOR Swimming. Supervisor Ford provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Ford, Campbell, Lewis, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Request Approval of FY 2019 Funding Priorities and Budget Schedule

Finance Director Steven Bolster briefly reviewed his Agenda Item: "As you know, the Board traditionally adopts both a budget schedule and a list of funding priorities, prior to embarking on the annual budget process. These documents provide guidance for both staff and the Board as we work through the budget. At the Board's regular meeting on October 10th, a draft budget schedule and listing of funding priorities were presented. Both had been adapted from prior year documents. Staff requested that Board members submit any suggested additions or amendments to Supervisors Ford and Higgins for review by the Finance Committee and presentation of final drafts to the Board at its regularly scheduled October 23rd meeting. The Finance Committee has met three times during the past seven weeks to develop the attached draft budget schedule and funding priorities. Please note the following updates since October 10th:

Budget Schedule - None. The Executive Committee is meeting October 19th to coordinate the Joint Board meetings that are currently reflected as TBD on

the draft schedule. Staff will provide an update as the times and locations are finalized. Should any additional Board meetings be required, appropriate public notices will be issued.

Funding Priorities - The draft set of funding priorities is attached. Supervisor Ford provided edits which were incorporated at the October 12th finance committee meeting. Staff will review these changes at the October 23rd meeting."

Mr. Bolster presented an updated Budget Schedule that was amended following the Executive Committee meeting on October 19th.

Supervisor Ford moved to approve the FYE 2019 Budget Schedule and Funding Priorities. Supervisor Higgins provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Ford, Higgins, Campbell, Lewis, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Consideration of Drought Conditions

County Administrator Spencer Suter briefly reviewed his Board report: "At the Board's last regular meeting on October 13th, staff was directed to investigate drought conditions in the County and prepare a resolution for consideration. We subsequently coordinated with Cooperative Extension Agent Tom Stanley, who researched conditions and prepared a report for the Board, with supporting documentation. The report is attached, along with a draft resolution requesting drought designation. Though Mr. Stanley's research does not yet support a drought designation, the decision as to whether or not to request designation is fully within the Board's purview.

Despite his findings, Mr. Stanley commended the early recognition by farmers and discussion at the Board level, noting to me that should conditions worsen, the Board will be in a favorable position by having completed research early in the drought cycle. Consider the report and draft resolution. The Board could opt to adopt the resolution, or delay action until, if, and when conditions worsen.”

Supervisor Higgins advised that farmers could not request help unless the Board passes a resolution.

Supervisor Ford agreed with Supervisor Higgins’ statement and added that farmers need their crop insurance.

Supervisor Higgins moved to adopt the drought resolution. Supervisor Ford provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Ford, Campbell, Lewis, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

County Administrator Spencer Suter noted that the resolution would be sent to elected officials.

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2017

RESOLUTION DECLARING A DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, AND REQUESTING DISASTER ASSISTANCE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA AND THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, over a period of many months, Rockbridge County has had a significant deficit in rainfall creating drought conditions throughout the agricultural areas of the County; and,

WHEREAS, these drought conditions caused by extreme weather have resulted in serious and irreversible damage to pasture growth, necessitating forage feeding, and crop production has been significantly reduced; and,

WHEREAS, groundwater levels in the County are seriously depleted and continue to drop due to the successive years of drought; and,

WHEREAS, in recognition of these serious drought conditions and financial losses that are being experienced by local farmers, the County desires and respectfully urges that the appropriate Federal and State agencies declare Rockbridge County to be experiencing a drought disaster in order that any available financial assistance be provided to it.

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

1. That the Board of Supervisors recognizes that a drought disaster exists in Rockbridge County and respectfully requests that the appropriate Federal and State agencies recognize these conditions and have the County declared a drought disaster area in order for the County to qualify for all financial assistance which may be available to the local farmers through this or a similar designation; and,

2. That the County petitions the Honorable Terry R. McAuliffe, Governor of the Commonwealth, and all of its Federal and State legislators, namely the Honorable U.S. Senators Mark R. Warner and Tim M. Kaine, the Honorable U.S. Representative Robert W. Goodlatte, the Honorable Senator R. Creigh Deeds, and the Honorable Delegate Ben Cline, together with the local Farm Service Agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, to proceed as soon as possible to have the County declared a drought disaster or similar area and to obtain all possible financial assistance from any available Federal or State agency to the farmers who are being so seriously injured by the extreme conditions in the County.

3. That the Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor McAuliffe, Senators Warner and Kaine, Congressman Goodlatte, Senator Deeds and Delegate Cline.

Adopted this __ day of _____, 201_.

Continued Virginia Horse Center Discussion

Supervisor Campbell stated that there are many variables to be considered with regard to implementation of athletic fields at the VHC. He requested that it be further reviewed and brought back to the Board with a report of findings.

The other Board members agreed with Supervisor Campbell's statement and recommendation requesting to postpone discussion on this matter, as there were too many moving parts at the moment.

County Administrator Spencer Suter noted that there is somewhat of an urge to move forward with this in order to begin construction on the soccer fields through the winter. He also noted that the City of Lexington would be considering this matter in early November.

Chairman Hinty added this item to the November 13th Agenda.

Mr. Suter introduced Chief Operating Officer of the Virginia Horse Center Leigh Anne Claywell.

Ms. Claywell requested that Mr. Suter come look at the proposed property with the manager of the cross-country competition event for a more complete overview on how to accommodate all parties.

Consideration of Policy on Electronic Participation in Meetings

County Attorney Vickie Huffman briefly reviewed her Board Report:

"In Va. Code §2.2-3708.1, the Virginia legislature has provided enabling authority for a public body to allow, through adoption of a written policy, individual members to participate in a meeting through electronic

means from a remote location in the event the member cannot participate for personal reasons. The written policy must include an approval process. The procedural requirements for participation are as follows:

1. A quorum of the public body must be physically assembled at the public meeting location;
2. The remote participant's voice must be heard by all;
3. The remote participant must notify the Chairman on or before the day of the meeting; and,
4. The nature of the personal matter must be identified;
5. The nature of the personal matter and the remote location must be recorded in the minutes.

Examples of personal matters that may be included are:

- Flat tire on the way to the meeting
- Traffic congestion or stoppage
- Personal, family or business emergency
- Severe weather conditions that prevent travel to the meeting location
- Business trip
- Family trip
- Scheduling conflicts

"Remote participation is limited to two (2) meetings per year for each individual member of the public body.

"Upon approval, the remote participant may make motions, vote, join in closed meetings, and otherwise participate fully as if he/she was physically present. If a member's participation is not approved for

failure to comply with the policy or the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, the member may continue to monitor the meeting, but may not participate in the proceedings and may not be counted as present at the meeting.

"A draft Policy is attached for the Board's consideration. Additional policy provisions may be added in the Board's discretion, provided they do not expressly violation Va. Code §2.2-3708.1. Some technical adjustments will need to be made to permit a remote participant's voice to be heard at a meeting.

"Va. Code §2.2-3708.1 also contains provision for electronic participation in meetings in the event the member of the public body notifies the chairman that such member is unable to attend a meeting due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevent physical attendance at the meeting. The public body must record this fact and the remote location in the meeting minutes. The Policy is not required for use of this section.

"There are also separate provisions in Va. Code §2.2-3708(G) for conducting a meeting with remote participation in the event of a declared emergency."

Ms. Huffman advised that, should the Board wish to proceed, the policy would be placed on a future Agenda after staff proceeds with the necessary audio/visual technical adjustments.

During review of her Board Report, Supervisor Lewis left the dais at 6:40 p.m. and returned at 6:41 p.m.

The Board unanimously agreed to proceed with researching the necessary audio/visual technical adjustments.

ADDED ITEMS:

Appointment

Public Service Authority (PSA)

Supervisor Higgins nominated Supervisor Lewis to serve on the PSA with an effective date of January 1, 2018 - following his retirement from the Board of Supervisors December 31, 2017. He requested that Rick Mast continue serving in his position, although his term expired October 14, 2017, so that the seat is filled until Supervisor Lewis' retirement. Supervisor Ford provided a second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Ford, Campbell, Lewis, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Chairman Hinty requested that a letter be sent to the PSA Director advising of this appointment.

Amended Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan Certification after finding minor edits following its approval on October 10th as part of the Greenhouse Village Phase II policies.

Assistant Director of Community Development Chris Slaydon explained that two minor errors had been found following its adoption of these documents on October 10th.

Supervisor Ford moved to approve the amended Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan Certification. Supervisor Lewis provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Ford, Lewis, Campbell, Higgins, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Adjourn

Supervisor Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. Supervisor Higgins provided the second, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous roll call vote.

AYES: Campbell, Higgins, Ford, Lewis, Hinty
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None