

AT A SCHEDULED BUDGET MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE  
COUNTY VIRGINIA, HELD AT ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL  
SYSTEM'S CENTRAL OFFICE, LEXINGTON VIRGINIA ON  
THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2019 AT 5:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: A.J. "JAY" LEWIS, II.  
DANIEL E. LYONS  
JOHN M. HIGGINS  
R. W. DAY

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: DAVID W. HINTY, JR.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
AND CLERK TO BOARD: SPENCER H. SUTER (DIAL-IN)

FISCAL SERVICES  
DIRECTOR: STEVEN J. BOLSTER

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: WENDY LOVELL  
HEATHER HOSTETTER  
NEIL WHITMORE

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS  
ABSENT: COREY BERKSTRESSER  
DAVID MCDANIEL

SCHOOL STAFF: DR. PHILLIP THOMPSON  
DR. HAYWOOD HAND  
RANDY WALTERS  
RHONDA HUMPHRIES

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman Lewis called the continued meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

**Joint Board Meeting:**

Chairman Lewis provided a review of the joint Board meeting objectives which included discussions on the School Division's athletic field priority list, consideration of the School Division FY 2020 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and consideration of an agreement for Rockbridge County Public School (RCPS) to utilize the regional radio system.

School Board Chairperson Lovell provided an overview of Dr. Thompson's athletic field priority letter to Mr. Suter, dated June 27, 2019. Chairperson Lovell highlighted the following five priorities:

1. Replacement of Rockbridge County High School (RCHS) track.
2. Addition of practice field at Maury River Middle School (MRMS).
3. Conversion from natural to synthetic/artificial turf field at RCHS.
4. Addition of athletic fields at the Virginia Horse Center.
5. Addition of athletic fields at the former Rockbridge County Middle School.

Chairperson Lovell also expressed the need for a storage facility at RCHS to house athletic and turf-management equipment. Dr. Thompson indicated that there is always a need to store and organize athletic equipment; as such, the facility dimensions would need to be something of significant size. In response to a question from Chairman Lewis, he stated the building would be on the visitor side of the RCHS stadium.

Regarding the RCHS track replacement, Dr. Thompson commented that the School Division received firm quotes: 1) \$180,000 and 2) \$200,000. He indicated the School Division will need to complete a Request for Proposal for this project.

Chairman Lewis transitioned the discussion to expanding the RCHS tennis courts. He asked the School Division to consider reaching out to the local Rockbridge Tennis Association for potential grant dollars to assist with the potential project. Chairperson Lovell communicated that the expansion of the RCHS tennis courts would result in lower transportation costs, since the students are bused to the Lexington

Country Club. Chairman Lewis added that the School Division feasibility study results will have an impact on the priority of the tennis court expansion project. Dr. Thompson conveyed that the feasibility study has started.

Chairperson Lovell finished her review of the School Division's athletic field priorities. Supervisor Lyons remarked that the School Board is responsible for developing their project priorities and the Board of Supervisors will work on sourcing the project funding. Chairperson Lovell articulated the position that the athletic field priorities are communicated in Dr. Thompson's letter.

Chairman Lewis then opened the discussion on the School Division FY 2020 CIP.

Dr. Thompson indicated the RCPS CIP was similar to the FY 2019-2023 CIP presented the previous year. He said the athletic field priority to add a practice field at Maury River Middle School at MRMS was a new change to their CIP for FY 2020. He stated the project cost estimate is \$68,500.

Chairman Lewis asked what impact the FY 2020 CIP projects would have on the School Carryover Account totals. Mr. Bolster indicated the School Division requested to set aside \$116,406.17 into the carryover account from FY 2019's local operational support balance. He said this will increase the account balance to \$757,571.05 to support \$363,500 in FY 2020 RCPS CIP projects. Mr. Bolster added that when accounting for the agreed-upon minimum account balance of \$225,000 this would leave \$169,071.05 for future CIP projects.

Supervisor Lyons said he wanted to make sure that both Boards are in agreement that the out years in the CIP are subject to change. Chairman Lewis expressed that approving the CIP, particularly projects beyond 2020, does not indicate the funding source is agreed upon by each governing body.

The School Board voted to approved the RCPS FY 2020-2023 CIP as presented.

Supervisor Day asked if anyone had reviewed the RCPS needs to ensure what is being requested is consistent with their communication requirements. Both Mr. Walters and Dr. Thompson confirmed that a meeting between RCPS and Consolidated Dispatch representatives did occur at the 911 Center to discuss the School Division needs.

Supervisor Lyons moved to approve the School Division FY 2020-2023 CIP. A second was provided by Supervisor Higgins, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board Members present:

AYE: Lyons, Higgins, Day, Lewis  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Hinty

Chairman Lewis then moved to the agenda topic involving the consideration of the agreement to authorize the RCPS to utilize the regional radio system.

Mr. Suter indicated the agreement under consideration was modeled after the Washington and Lee University agreement previously executed. He added that the Emergency Communication Center Board has to have an agreement in place to bring on new partners to the radio system. Mr. Suter commented that Rockbridge County owns the radio system until the debt

service is paid in full. He highlighted that the bandwidth usage priority for the system is for the region's public-safety function involving law enforcement and fire-rescue services.

Chairman Lewis introduced Consolidated Dispatch Director Curt Berry and asked how the process will work for prioritizing bus driver use of the radio system for emergencies and how does the program prioritize calls.

Mr. Berry and 911 Center Systems Technician Dave Wheeler provided significant details about the protocol processes and procedures involved with integrating the School Division into the radio system's communication structure. Mr. Wheeler also reviewed the advantages of including RCPS on the system.

1. The system will allow for School Division personnel to communicate with Consolidated Dispatch on the same priority as other emergency services staff.
2. The system will allow for a talk group for RCPS administrative staff to be able to communicate between each school.
3. The system will allow bus drivers to coordinate between each other during an emergency (once a 911 talk group is created).

Mr. Berry added that many school districts are moving in the direction to be on a regional radio system that serves first responders.

Dr. Thompson relayed the account after the South River Market explosion, indicating that RCPS personnel had some issues with dead-zone spots in the County when communicating with bus drivers.

Chairman Lewis conveyed that the School Division bought the radios and will maintain them.

Mr. Wheeler remarked that Consolidated Dispatch personnel are more than willing to assist the schools with any issues that occur with the radios. Dr. Thompson added that RCPS staff will complete training on proper radio etiquette. Mr. Wheeler responded that he is available to attend this training.

Mr. Suter indicated that the approval is subject to Exhibit A, Subscriber List (list of radio serial numbers and who has phones in their possession). He also stated that the concept of adding the School Division was approved by consensus of the Communications Board, but that the agreement, which is substantially the same as the one with Washington and Lee University, still needs to be finalized and approved. Dr. Thompson responded that Mr. Walters is responsible for getting the list for Exhibit A. Then Mr. Suter requested confirmation that the number of mobile, portable, and base-station radios listed on page 2, paragraph 1 of the draft agreement was correct. Dr. Thompson affirmed the accuracy of the agreement language as presented.

The School Board voted to approved the Radio Maintenance and System Use Agreement Between and Among Rockbridge County Rockbridge Regional Public Safety Communications Center and Rockbridge County Public Schools.

Supervisor Higgins moved to approve the Radio Maintenance and System Use Agreement Between and Among Rockbridge County Rockbridge Regional Public Safety Communications Center and Rockbridge County Public Schools. A second was provided by Supervisor Day, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board Members present:

AYE: Higgins, Day, Lyons, Lewis

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Hinty

Supervisor Lyons requested that School Division leadership produce a monthly line graph for the respective governing bodies that compares the percentage of revenue and expenditures for the current fiscal year with those from the previous three years. Supervisor Lyons articulated that the information would assist with knowing if revenues and expenditures are in line with projections. Dr. Thompson indicated this request was not an issue for their staff to complete.

The Board's communicated that the next Executive Committee meeting is on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM in the County Administration Building and the next joint meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM in the School Board Central Office.

**Adjournment:**

Supervisor Higgins moved to adjourn this meeting. A second was provided by Supervisor Lyons, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board Members present:

AYE: Higgins, Lyons, Day, Lewis  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Hinty