

AT A WORK SESSION OF THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
HELD IN THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
AT 150 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA  
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2019 AT 4:30 P.M.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: DAVID W. HINTY, JR. (Arrived at the end of the  
Work Session)

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND  
CLERK TO THE BOARD: SPENCER H. SUTER

COUNTY ATTORNEY: VICKIE L. HUFFMAN

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**Review of the County's CIP:**

Fiscal Services Director Steven Bolster briefly reviewed the agenda item which included the following information:

"The Fiscal Services Department is teaming with other County departments to update the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FYs 2021-2025. The CIP serves as a planning tool that identifies needed capital projects, major equipment purchases, and coordinates the funding and the timing of the proposed improvements. For our purposes, capital projects and/or purchases are defined as facilities, equipment, or services that are valued at \$5,000 or greater with an expected life span of at least one year.

During the past two months, staff has met twice to review the CIP worksheets in order to garner data we believe provides adequate

information for each worksheet. In addition, the Finance Committee reviewed each worksheet along with the long-term outlook for planned capital budgeting.

The current CIP schedule includes bringing a potential update to the draft FYE 2021-2025 CIP to the Board at the regularly scheduled December 9, 2019 meeting and seeking provisional adoption of the CIP at the January 13, 2020 meeting."

Mr. Bolster then reviewed the CIP Work Sheets that detailed the proposed capital projects.

Supervisor Higgins asked if there were any capital projects that would be dropping off the County's CIP within the three (3) years.

Mr. Bolster replied, no, but the Schools would see some drop off.

Chairman Lewis asked if improvements to the Murat collection center site were actually improvements or complete creation of a new staffed site.

Mr. Suter advised that the Murat site does not have a compactor but one would be added.

In regard to a second cabin addition at Lake Robertson, Chairman Lewis asked if the 244 camping days were year to date, a calendar year, or a fiscal year.

Mr. Suter explained it was 244 days through the calendar year.

Following review of the County's CIP, Supervisor Higgins asked how much revenue would be accumulated by a one-cent tax increase.

Mr. Bolster replied, roughly \$254,000.

Chairman Lewis asked Mr. Bolster how much the municipal management software will cost and if any research had been completed to date or if it is too early to look into the project.

Mr. Bolster replied, \$50,000 is what is budgeted, based on conversations with providers, and this was a planning number.

Chairman Lewis asked if the x-ray machine is a shared expense with the City of Lexington.

Mr. Bolster replied, yes, that the City is billed for 25% of the cost.

Supervisors Hinty, Day, and Lyons suggested the County look into lease-purchase of some of the big equipment.

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Lewis closed the meeting at 4:56 p.m.

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
HELD IN THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
AT 150 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA  
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019 AT 5:30 P.M.

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: DANIEL E. LYONS  
JOHN M. HIGGINS  
R. W. DAY  
DAVID W. HINTY, JR.

ABSENT: A.J. "JAY" LEWIS, II.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND  
CLERK TO THE BOARD: SPENCER H. SUTER

COUNTY ATTORNEY: VICKIE L. HUFFMAN

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CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He advised that Supervisor Higgins would deliver the invocation for anyone who wished to participate.

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

Chairman Lewis stated that it was clear many attendees were present to discuss Second Amendment issues which is not on the agenda but would be added to the December 9<sup>th</sup> agenda. However, the Board welcomed anyone who wished to speak on the topic. He then advised that, in preparing for a large turn-out, citizens' comments would be moved to 6:30 p.m. in the auxiliary gym at Maury River Middle School. He stated that there would be a sign-in sheet for those who wished to speak and reminded the public that

State law prohibits firearms on school grounds. He then provided a short break to allow members of the public to leave if they wanted to do so.

**Changes to the Agenda:**

Chairman Lewis re-advised that citizen's comments would be moved to the end of the agenda, reconvening at Maury River Middle School at 6:30 p.m.

Supervisor Lyons asked to add discussion on the County's noise ordinance.

Supervisor Higgins added an appointment to the RARO Board.

**Approval of the November 12, 2019 and November 14, 2019 Minutes:**

Supervisor Lyons moved to approve the minutes. Supervisor Higgins provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Lyons, Higgins, Day, Hinty, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**Consideration of the Schools Appropriation Resolution:**

Fiscal Services Director Steven Bolster presented the resolution and recommended approval as presented.

Supervisor Hinty moved to approve the resolution. Supervisor Higgins provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Hinty, Higgins, Lyons, Day, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: 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, NOVEMBER 25, 2019 AT 5:30 P.M.

On motion by Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, the Board, by record vote adopted the following appropriation resolutions:

**APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION**

**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, 2020** in **FUND 50, SCHOOL FUND** and expended as follows:

**New Grants**

**Title I Pt A 2018**

4-50-61100-1120-220-100-902	Teacher Salaries.....	\$98,379.00
4-50-61100-1120-240-100-902	Teacher Salaries.....	\$103,618.00
4-50-61100-1120-260-100-902	Teacher Salaries.....	\$46,168.00
4-50-61100-1120-270-100-902	Teacher Salaries.....	\$93,684.00
4-50-61100-2100-220-100-902	FICA.....	\$7,433.00
4-50-61100-2100-240-100-902	FICA.....	\$7,469.00
4-50-61100-2100-260-100-902	FICA.....	\$3,392.00
4-50-61100-2100-270-100-902	FICA.....	\$6,982.00
4-50-61100-2210-220-100-902	VRS.....	\$18,512.00
4-50-61100-2210-240-100-902	VRS.....	\$10,514.00
4-50-61100-2210-260-100-902	VRS.....	\$8,687.00
4-50-61100-2210-270-100-902	VRS.....	\$17,628.00
4-50-61100-2300-220-100-902	Medical.....	\$5,696.00
4-50-61100-2300-240-100-902	Medical.....	\$5,840.00
4-50-61100-2300-260-100-902	Medical.....	\$5,696.00
4-50-61100-2300-270-100-902	Medical.....	\$10,684.00
4-50-61100-2400-220-100-902	GLI.....	\$1,547.00
4-50-61100-2400-240-100-902	GLI.....	\$879.00
4-50-61100-2400-260-100-902	GLI.....	\$726.00
4-50-61100-2400-270-100-902	GLI.....	\$1,473.00
4-50-61100-2750-220-100-902	Retiree HCC.....	\$1,417.00
4-50-61100-2750-240-100-902	Retiree HCC.....	\$805.00
4-50-61100-2750-260-100-902	Retiree HCC.....	\$665.00
4-50-61100-2750-270-100-902	Retiree HCC.....	\$1,350.00
4-50-61100-3160-220-100-902	Purchased Services.....	\$5,715.00
4-50-61100-3160-240-100-902	Purchased Services.....	\$5,715.00
4-50-61100-3160-260-100-902	Purchased Services.....	\$258.00

4-50-61100-3160-270-100-902	Purchased Services.....	\$2,715.00
4-50-61100-5540-220-100-902	Travel.....	\$2,858.00
4-50-61100-5540-240-100-902	Travel.....	\$2,858.00
4-50-61100-5540-260-100-902	Travel.....	\$1,429.00
4-50-61100-5540-270-100-902	Travel.....	\$2,858.00
4-50-61100-6030-220-100-902	Materials & Supplies.....	\$9,243.00
4-50-61100-6030-240-100-902	Materials & Supplies.....	\$9,243.00
4-50-61100-6030-260-100-902	Materials & Supplies.....	\$4,622.00
4-50-61100-6030-270-100-902	Materials & Supplies.....	<u>\$9,243.00</u>
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>\$516,001.00</b>

**TOTAL FUND 50 APPROPRIATIONS** **\$516,001.00**

**Presentation on Natural Bridge State Park Discovery Area:**

Park Superintendent Jim Jones explained that Sandra Stuart was able to get the park a grant from Dominion Energy for \$12,000 and including the \$2,000 raised at the Freedom Food Festival, they were able to use the \$14,000 toward development of a new playground that would be a certified nature classroom. He shared that the model of the proposed development was already in place at Sky Meadows State Park. He recognized Art Bartenstein who designed the playground at no charge.

Supervisor Higgins asked if the area would be free.

Mr. Jones stated that the park utilizes an honor box system where each car pays \$5 to enter the park. He then noted that the park hit the \$2 million dollar mark on November 16<sup>th</sup> and commended his staff and advised that they would soon be submitting an application to become an International Dark Sky venue, which would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state.

Supervisor Higgins commended Mr. Jones for all he has done since coming on board.

Mr. Jones gave his staff all of the credit.

## **Consideration of Information Technology Services Contract Extension:**

Mr. Bolster briefly reviewed the agenda item which included the following information:

"On May 28, 2018, the Board authorized the emergency procurement and contracted service for information technology (IT) support for Rockbridge County with Virginia Technology Services (VTS). We are coming up on the end of the County/VTS contract and need additional time to implement the phased approach to meet short and long-term solutions that are in the best interest to the County. To recap, our goal was to have VTS:

- review and revamp our systems, processes, backups, etc.
- create a comprehensive system manual of processes so that our future IT staff member would have a "playbook" to go by
- provide recommendations for the path ahead, to include the knowledge, skills, and abilities suggested for the County's future IT staff member and the optimal way to provide for the long-term, external support for this position

The processes listed above have taken longer than expected, but VTS is nearly complete with the targeted action items. Last month staff informed the Board of the recommendation to transition IT operations and support in the following direction:

1. Hire a technician-level position, as opposed to the Director level
2. Solicit proposals for a managed service provider of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party group, to provide backup to the technician and mitigate the risk of having only one person on staff with the corporate knowledge of the County's IT and network systems



We have since advertised for the IT Technician position and are reviewing applications. Staff is working to achieve the following goals with this services agreement extension request:

- Hire an IT Technician. This will require time for interviews and an offer, potentially followed by 2 or 3 weeks of notice to the prior employer before starting with the County. In addition, we are coming up on the winter holiday season which could impact availability. We also will coordinate with VTS to train and orient this new hire on our IT and network systems.
- Solicit proposals for a 3<sup>rd</sup>-party, managed service provider, evaluate proposals, and negotiate a contract. We'd then be in a position to have the IT Technician and a 3<sup>rd</sup>-party, managed service provider in place at roughly the same time in January or February.

Attachments to the agenda report include an authorizing resolution and the services agreement extension. If in agreement, adopt the attached resolution declaring the County Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the services agreement extension on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of Rockbridge County, and to take such other and further actions as may be necessary and appropriate to accomplish this transaction, which shall be approved as to form by the County Attorney."

Supervisor Higgins moved to approve the recommendation. Supervisor Lyons provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Lyons, Day, Hinty, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF  
ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICES ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2019

**Resolution Authorizing and Approving an Extension Agreement for Information  
Technology System Services for Rockbridge County Operations, Maintenance  
and Support From Virginia Technology Services, LLC**

**WHEREAS**, on May 28, 2019, the Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution authorizing emergency procurement of information technology services from Virginia Technology Services, LLC (“VTS”), for short-term assistance with operations, maintenance and support for the Rockbridge County IT System; and,

**WHEREAS**, the initial term of the Services Agreement dated June 1, 2019, was through September 30, 2019, with provision for renewal for an additional two months, through November 30, 2019; and,

**WHEREAS**, the County requires additional time to complete the hiring of an IT technician and procurement of third party IT management services, and VTS is agreeable to further extension of its Services Agreement; and,

**WHEREAS**, staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve extension of the Services Agreement with VTS through January 31, 2020, with provision for extension for an additional one month, upon mutual agreement of the parties.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors has determined that the above-referenced extension is necessary and is in the best interests of the County, to avoid disruptions of County services internally, as well as to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF  
ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, as follows:

1. That extension of the existing Services Agreement, dated June 1, 2019, with VTS to provide assistance with operations, maintenance and support for the Rockbridge County IT System as set forth therein, through January 31, 2019, with provision for a one-month extension if needed, is hereby authorized and approved.

2. That the County Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the Extension Agreement dated December 1, 2019, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Rockbridge and to execute such other documents and take such further actions as are necessary to accomplish this transaction, all of which shall be approved as to form by the County Attorney.

3. That this resolution shall be effective on and from the date of its adoption.

Adopted this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.

**Consideration of Managed IT Services Provider RFP:**

Mr. Bolster briefly reviewed the agenda item, which included the following information:

"Last month staff informed the Board of the recommendation to transition IT operations and support in the following direction:

1. Hire a technician-level position, as opposed to the Director level.
2. Solicit proposals for a managed service provider of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party group, to provide backup to the technician and mitigate the risk of having only one person on staff with the corporate knowledge of the County's IT and network systems.

Staff examined both the invitation for bid (IFB) and request for proposal (RFP) options. It is clear that an RFP is the preferred approach to give

us the best IT support services as explained below. Thus, and in accordance with the Code of Virginia:

- Staff believes this work falls under non-professional services.
- Virginia Code section § 2.2-4303.C states that, "Goods, services other than professional services, and insurance may be procured by competitive sealed bidding or competitive negotiation...The basis for this determination shall be documented in writing."
- Staff deems that, in order to ensure that we gain the optimum service for the County and to meet the intended scope of services, we will be better served by issuing a Request for Proposals, rather than an Invitation for Bids. This recommendation is based on the fact that the County would be best served by soliciting the most technically-qualified provider of services, rather than the lowest bidder. In addition, an experienced proposer may offer recommendations which may prove beneficial and cost-effective to the County. If in agreement, authorize the issuance of a Managed Service Provider RFP finding that an Invitation for Bids is neither practicable nor fiscally advantageous to the public for the reasons set forth above. In addition, direct staff to evaluate proposals, negotiate a contract, and bring back the results to the Board for approval consideration."

Supervisor Lyons moved to approve the recommendation. Supervisor Higgins, provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Lyons, Higgins, Day, Hinty, Lewis

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**Consideration of Rabies Clinics at the Goshen, Natural Bridge, Raphine,  
and South River Fire Departments:**

Mr. Suter briefly reviewed the agenda item which included the following information:

"The Code of Virginia requires that Counties in the Commonwealth ensure that a rabies clinic is held for residents at least once every two years. We are fortunate to have proactive residents, veterinarians, and Volunteer Fire Departments, who advocate for, administer and host such clinics.

Currently, rabies clinics have been scheduled for 2020 at Raphine, Natural Bridge, South River and Goshen Volunteer Fire Departments. Firm dates have not yet been set, but will be advertised prior to the events."

Supervisor Hinty moved to approve the rabies clinics for FY2020. Supervisor Day, provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Hinty, Day, Lyons, Higgins, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**Consideration of Recycling Contract with RDS and Recycling MOA with the  
City of Lexington:**

Mr. Suter briefly reviewed the agenda item which included the following information:

"At its regular, August 12 meeting, the Board received an update on recycling processes and fees. As you may recall, our recyclables processor, RDS, Inc. (Roanoke) notified the County that, based on a dip in the market, it would begin charging us to accept recyclable material beginning on September 1. At that time, I reported that we would bring the Board an agreement in the future. We have negotiated an agreement with RDS and, since the City of Lexington is partnering with us on processing of recyclables, have reviewed with their staff as well, who support the language.

The attached draft agreement provides for one-year terms. It does allow for RDS or the County to give 90 days' notice of termination at the end of any term; in addition RDS may terminate acceptance of a particular recyclable with 90 days written notice to the County. The rates for material are based on an industry standard publication "High Yellow Market Sheet" (HYMS), which is published monthly.

Concurrently, the Board would need to consider the attached, draft agreement with the City of Lexington, for cost/revenue sharing. The shares of each would be based on the ratio of tonnage as weighed in at the BRRRA Landfill, prior to comingling and shipping materials. This is essentially formalizing the process that we have been informally utilizing for over a year. City staff has reviewed and agrees with the contents of the document."

Supervisor Higgins moved to approve both items presented. Supervisor Hinty, provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Hinty, Lyons, Day, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**Appointments:**

**Rockbridge Area Tourism Board:**

Carried over.

**Community Services Board- John Higgins- Term Expires 12/31/2019:**

Supervisor Lyons moved to appoint Kevin Kendall to the CSB following Mr. Higgins term. Supervisor Higgins, provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Lyons, Higgins, Day, Hinty, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**Community Services Board- Heather Hostetter- Term Expires 12/31/2019:**

Supervisor Hinty moved to appoint Ann Ashby McKissick to the CSB following Ms. Hostetter's term. Supervisor Lyons, provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Hinty, Lyons, Day, Higgins, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**Added Appointment:**

**RARO Board:**

Supervisor Higgins moved to appoint Leslie Ayers to fill the unexpired term of Scott Rogers who moved from the County. Supervisor Lyons, provided the second, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Higgins, Lyons, Day, Hinty, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**Added Item:**

Supervisor Lyons asked that the Board add to its January Agenda a discussion on the County's noise ordinance.

Supervisor Higgins recommended a representative from W&L be asked to join.

**Break:**

Chairman Lewis called for a break at 6:04 p.m. in order for staff to reconvene at Maury River Middle School by 6:30 p.m.

**Citizens Comments:**

**Moved to the Maury River Middle School's Auxiliary Gym at 6:30 p.m.**

Scott Guise of the Kerrs Creek Magisterial District spoke in support of Rockbridge County becoming a Second Amendment Sanctuary County by expressing the County's intent to uphold Second Amendment rights of its citizens, its intent to declare that County funds not be used to restrict



the Second Amendment rights of the citizens or aid federal or state agencies in the restriction of said rights, and declare to oppose any infringement of the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear any current lawful firearms using such legal means including and without limitations, court action, never relenting.

Monte Jessee, owner of High Country Outfitters in Lexington stated that he is a fire arms retailer, a certified Hunter Education instructor for the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, a certified instructor for rifle, pistol, and shotgun, and a Chief Range Safety Officer. Mr. Jessee advised that proposed legislation states that no child under the age of 18 handle a firearm unless under the direct supervision of an adult, but he feels that parents should be able to deem the appropriate age when their child is responsible enough to handle a firearm for sports or hunting. He advised that his son was hunting at the age of 13 after he had proven to be responsible enough and that the proposed legislation could cripple hunting in Virginia if passed. Mr. Jessee added that criminals do not obtain firearms legally and will not willingly give up their firearms if there is malicious intent. He added that mental illness needs to be addressed when purchasing a firearm; however right now, due to HIPPA laws, it is not a part of the background check.

Michelle Watkins of the Kerrs Creek Magisterial District stated that she comes from generations of hunters who took safety very seriously, but times have changed. She stated that Rockbridge County does not and should not be a gun sanctuary County but instead implement common sense gun purchasing and safety legislation to ensure safety for the community, since not everyone should have access to guns. Ms. Watkins advised that a

student in Covington, Virginia, back in September, planned to shoot those on his "hit-list" but fortunately was intercepted before that could happen. Should a sanctuary resolution pass, she stated, the County would have increased liability, and as a taxpayer, does not want to take that chance.

Jeff Scott of the Walkers Creek Magisterial District stated that he is a gun owner but believes it would be a bad idea to pass this type of regulation. He based his opinion on the following: the First Amendment guarantees freedom of speech, but there are laws, and that it is not an open blanket to say whatever you want; that the Second Amendment is not an open blanket to have a gun because some guns are not allowed, such as a machine gun, missile, or tank; and if the County passes such a regulation, the County will be held liable and sued when someone is killed. Mr. Scott concluded that even having this discussion is pre-mature since legislation has yet to be passed.

Jared Lanham of Collierstown stated that the Second Amendment has nothing to do with hunting and shooting but everything to do with our God given rights to self-defend our Country. He stated that, most if not all mass shooters violate multiple gun laws in how they obtain their weapons or where they carry their weapons. He added that more gun laws will not protect the citizens but make them more vulnerable by not being able to protect their family and community. Mr. Lanham stated that banning such guns will not eliminate them but place them on the black market. He asked the Board to send a message to Richmond that we do not agree with the proposed legislation and are standing up against what they are trying to do.

Ann Massie of the Buffalo Creek District shared that she taught constitutional law for 29 years and it is the courts who decide what laws are passed and not passed, so it would not make sense for the County to designate itself as a Sanctuary County when we do not yet know what the law will say or how it will be interpreted.

Galen Lemmon of Natural Bridge stated that the Declaration of Independence focuses on the rights from our Creator, identified as Nature's God, and are listed as life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. He added that it is common sense that this would include self-defense of one's family and others and that the Second Amendment states that the right should not be infringed upon. Addressing some earlier concerns about the County being held liable if someone is hurt after becoming a sanctuary County, he stated that 1.2 to 2 million people are saved each year because law-abiding citizens possess firearms legally and that history is filled with dictators disarming its people who would soon be enslaved. He encouraged the Supervisors to use its powers and support the Second Amendment in any way it can.

Keri-Lyn Coleman of the Walkers Creek Magisterial District shared her concern that pro-gun groups are encouraging elected officials to make Rockbridge County a sanctuary County. She added that the duly-elected, Democratically-controlled Assembly were elected with gun-safety as part of their platform and that preemptively passing a sanctuary County resolution would be ludicrous and undemocratic. Ms. Coleman added that she graduated from the University of Georgia in 1999 with a degree in criminal justice. She stated that 100 Americans are killed with guns every day and asked what message the Board would be sending to the younger generations if they

pass a resolution stating that the County will be ignoring the law. Ms. Coleman stated that the Board has been entrusted with the power to make decisions to ensure the safety of not only her children but the entire community.

B.J. Flint of Jacktown Road shared with the Board of an incident that took place at his home on November 20<sup>th</sup>. He stated that upon arriving home one evening, he noticed his basement door was open and that someone had broken into his home. Having his 6-year old son with him in the vehicle, he called his neighbor who advised him to first call the Sheriff's Department and bring his young son to his house. Within the 13 minutes that took, he stated that the intruder could have come out of the house panicked and scared, holding a firearm at which point, what would he have done? He stated that he had a 9mm with 13 rounds with him and had no intentions of shooting anyone, but would protect his son. He added that he believed everyone needs a gun if they know how to use it.

Steve Hart of the Kerrs Creek Magisterial District stated that restricting the liberties of good people will never fix the problem of bad people. He stated that he supports the comments made by those who support the resolution but felt it is insufficient. Mr. Hart added that, if the County wants to be a sanctuary, then it should be a sanctuary of every liberty contained in the Bill of Rights, and that it is not an infringed concept, but Americans who want to be what Americans have always been, FREE, and that it should be a sanctuary for liberty, and freedom.

Collette Barry-Rec shared that, with the results of the recent election, it seems like our Virginia will slide on into being a sanctuary State and in doing so will result in more crimes and more burden on local

law enforcement. Thus, she shared, they will be dependent on the "good guys", like those in the audience, who have guns. She stated that anyone in the audience who wants to give up their guns should do so now, but they do not want to give up their guns - they just want to defend themselves. She urged the Board to declare Rockbridge County a sanctuary County and added that she was speaking on behalf of herself and Sergeant Pat who lives in Buena Vista but could not make the meeting because he is in the United States Army and Deployed in Afghanistan.

Joe Borzelleca of the Walkers Creek Magisterial District shared that he is a gun owner who believes that what is being proposed this evening is civil disobedience because we do not yet know what laws will be passed through the General Assembly. He stated that, if the Board of Supervisors is sufficiently certain that whatever laws emerge will be more harmful to the citizens of the County than whatever punitive measures the Commonwealth might see fit to impose both the County and its citizens who disobey the laws, then by all means participate in civil disobedience. He added that the Board should do so with eyes open, ready and willing to accept whatever legal recourse the Commonwealth sees fit.

Tim Goodbar of the Kerrs Creek Magisterial District stated that he hoped each Board Member had visited the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. where it is heartbreaking to see what happened to those people because their firearms were taken and they could not defend themselves. Mr. Goodbar shared how ironic it is for the Board to host this meeting at the Middle School instead of the High School because in the front of the building there is a display honoring a 13 year old child, his granddaughter, who would be right by his side tonight to speak on this

subject had she not lost her life at the age of 13. He stated that she was an avid bear hunter and that many grandfathers, fathers, and mothers would stand up for their children under the age of 18 who own a firearm.

Tom McCraw of the Walkers Creek Magisterial District shared his disbelief that this meeting was even taking place and supported protection of one's family. He asked those who are concerned about becoming a sanctuary County where their concern is about the people who are invading the nation illegally. He then supported a sanctuary County resolution.

Peter Del Vecchio of the Walkers Creek Magisterial District stated that he has never owned a gun but does believe in the Second Amendment rights. He shared that he was a teacher for most of his life and treated all children equally despite their differences. He suggested that, rather than passing a ceremonial, meaningless proposition, that a commission be created to study how this all relates to the County. He noted that he moved to the area because he admires how people have good morals and good hearts.

Louise Ward suggested that a resolution be passed which states the importance of the Second Amendment rights and to allow those who own their guns to lawfully keep them.

Jessee Graham of the Walkers Creek Magisterial District opposed any infraction against the Second Amendment or any red-flag laws because red-flag laws are a violation of the Fourth Amendment. He urged the Board of Supervisors to make Rockbridge County a sanctuary County.

Lauren Robinette of the Buffalo Creek Magisterial District advised the Board of an incident that took place in Georgia where her spouse held a gun to her head and abused her. She added that she attempted to get an

Order of Protection from her spouse when she came to Virginia but was told that the Virginia State Code would not allow her to do so since the event took place in another state. Since her spouse was in the military, she was able to receive the Order of Protection from the military, and it was ultimately violated 74 times. She asked the Board to protect its residents because the Virginia State Code doesn't always do it.

Army veteran Daniel Moore asked the Board to put themselves in police officers' shoes when they are forced to go into homes and confiscate firearms from citizens.

Nathan Dudlee of Natural Bridge shared his strong belief in the Second Amendment. He then responded to a previous speaker's comment that stated 100 people die per day from guns adding that 198 people die per day from overdose.

Gabriella Murdock shared that she carries a pistol as a means of protection for her and her four (4) year old daughter and will continue to fight for that right.

Stephanie Petty shared her support of the Second Amendment Sanctuary County resolution and shared her concern for those who currently own guns and how they will be considered criminals if the resolution is not passed.

Richard Thompson of Raphine stated that, at the end of the day, the Board of Supervisors works for its citizens. He stated that he has invested more money into firearms than his cars and even keeps friends' firearms that are illegal in other states.

Andrew Campbell asked the Board of Supervisors to help the citizens' voices to be heard.

Fran Fevrier of the Walkers Creek Magisterial District stated that she has lived in Rockbridge County for 25 years, her children having graduated from Rockbridge County High School, and believes the County is already a sanctuary County for its rivers, streams, creeks, mountains, wildlife, clean air, and small farms with great neighbors. She asked the Board to vote against a sanctuary County resolution.

David Reynolds shared his support of the Second Amendment stating that it should be left alone. He added that people with guns are the ones who gave the speakers the right to make their opinion known. He further stated that Chicago has the strictest gun laws in the Country and they have the most crimes.

Tyler Dudley of the South River Magisterial District asked the Board to hold the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at 6:00 p.m. instead of 5:30 p.m. to provide time for workers to be able to attend.

Chairman Lewis thanked the speakers for being at the meeting and advised that the topic would be on the December 9<sup>th</sup> Agenda as previously stated. He added that the Board instructs staff to share with them as many resolutions as adopted by other localities and any pre-filings that are in the General Assembly so that all information is available and to consult with the Sheriff, Sheriff-elect, and Commonwealth's Attorney to determine the best course of action to move ahead. He added that the Board intends to try reserving the auditorium at Rockbridge County High School to host this discussion on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjourn:**



Supervisor Lyons moved to adjourn the meeting. A second was provided by Supervisor Hinty, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by the Board.

AYES: Lyons, Hinty, Day, Higgins, Lewis  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None