

AT A SCHEDULED BUDGET MEETING OF THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS HELD IN THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
AT 150 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: D. E. LYONS
R. W. DAY
L.E. AYERS
D.B. MCDANIEL (virtually)

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: SPENCER H. SUTER

FISCAL SERVICES
DIRECTOR: STEVEN BOLSTER (virtually)

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman McDaniel called the meeting to order. He then thanked each agency which was present to present requests. He also thanked their employees and volunteers for the work they do for the community. As he was recovering from surgery and not able to participate in-person, he asked that Vice-Chair Ayers preside over the meeting.

County Administrator Spencer Suter conducted a roll call of the Board members present. Supervisors Ayers, Day, and Lyons attended in-person while Supervisor McDaniel attended virtually. Supervisor Lewis was absent.

Vice-Chair Ayers provided an invocation for those who wished to participate that recognized and honored Bridgewater College Campus Police Officer John Painter and Campus Safety Officer J.J. Jefferson who were killed on February 1, 2022.

The Board then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Ayers read aloud the following announcement:

“Per the governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia Executive Order 72, persons who have been fully vaccinated for Covid-19 are not required to wear a mask.

At this point and with support of the Board, I'd like to add a resolution to the agenda honoring the service of Fiscal Services Director Steve Bolster, as this will be his last budget meeting before he starts in his new role with the Virginia Department of Health.”

Supervisor Lyons read aloud the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE APPRECIATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY TO STEVEN J. BOSTER, DIRECTOR OF FISCAL SERVICES, FOR MORE THAN 10 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

WHEREAS, after a distinguished career in the United States Air Force, Steven “Steve” Bolster was hired by the County as its Director of Fiscal Services in October of 2011; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolster quickly proved his ability to gather, sort, analyze and present complex budget information in an easily understood manner; and,

WHEREAS, in his tenure, Mr. Bolster significantly advanced the position of the County through vision and innovation; and,

WHEREAS, his attention to detail and budget transparency resulted in a successful, unqualified audit in each of the 10 years he managed the annual budget formation and expenditure process; and,

WHEREAS, his unique method of budget management and transparent presentation has been taught in the Virginia Association of Counties Certified Supervisor Program as a model to emulate in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and,

WHEREAS, in 2014, his leadership resulted in award of the County's first Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Financial Officers Association, the highest possible honor presented by the organization; and,

WHEREAS, the County has received the award in each year since, for a total of seven certificates; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolster served as Fiscal Agent for, or otherwise greatly assisted, many other regional organizations and entities, including the Rockbridge Regional Library, the Rockbridge Area Network Authority, the Rockbridge Regional Jail, the Rockbridge Public Service Authority, the Blue Ridge Resource Authority, the Rockbridge Regional 911 Center, the Virginia Horse Center, Constitutional Officers, the Rockbridge County Court System, and many local non-profit agencies; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolster managed the financing of and/or was a central influencing figure in many projects critical to the advancement of the County, including but not limited to: implementation of the Rockbridge Area Network Authority, formation of the Blue Ridge Resource Authority and subsequent opening of a new, lined

landfill, revitalization and resurgence of the Virginia Horse Center, transformation of the Natural Bridge - Rockbridge County's namesake – to its current and permanent status as Virginia's 37th State Park, design and implementation of a new regional digital-trunked emergency communications system, design and construction of a new regional 911 center , implementation of the County's first career Fire-Rescue service, water and sewer upgrades in support of business and industry and upgrades and renovations to County schools; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolster expertly assisted in application for and management of innumerable state and federal grants, easing the burden on the local tax base; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolster's knowledge and drive led to multiple, timely bond refinancing initiatives, saving our taxpayers many thousands of dollars in future spending; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolster was a diligent and honorable caretaker of the public purse, carefully and wisely watching every penny of expenditure; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to his core function as Director of Fiscal Services, Mr. Bolster's duties included oversight of both the Information Technology and Purchasing Departments of the County; and,

WHEREAS, in dutiful attendance to his many tasks, Mr. Bolster could too-often be found in his office long after business hours and on many weekends; and,

WHEREAS, and most importantly, Mr. Bolster was and is, an honorable, dependable and consummately ethical man, professional and polite to all – no matter how difficult the situation faced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Supervisors of Rockbridge County, Virginia, does hereby express its deep appreciation to Steven J. Bolster, for his more than ten years of dedicated service to the citizens and employees of Rockbridge County, and offers its best wishes for he and his family as he moves on to new opportunities with the Virginia Department of Health. Our loss is their gain.

Adopted this 2nd day of February, 2022 by the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Suter advised that Mr. Bolster was attending virtually and offered his sincere appreciation to him for his service.

Supervisor Day moved to adopt the resolution A second was provided by Supervisor Lyons, and the motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Day, Lyons, McDaniel, Ayers
Nays: None
Absent: Lewis
Abstain: None

Vice-Chair Ayers then announced the following:

"The purpose for tonight's scheduled budget meeting is to give agencies requesting 2023 funding support an opportunity to provide

information regarding their requests to the Board of Supervisors. Our role tonight is to listen. In the interest of everyone's time, we will hold any potential questions we have, make a list, and pass them on to staff to seek answers from presenting organizations in the days after the meeting.

Budget requests to be discussed tonight are at this point only estimates to be included in the draft budget. The 2023 budget cycle will continue over the next three months. The Board expects to adopt a budget on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

We will take comment from those physically present first. Then County Administrator Spencer Suter or Fiscal Services Director Steve Bolster will elevate agency representatives to participants on Zoom so that they may speak. For those participating remotely, we ask that, if so equipped, you turn your camera on when you present so that the Board may see you.

We do ask that all presenters follow these guidelines when addressing the Board:

1. State your name, the organization you represent, and address your comments to the Board as a whole.
2. Please limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes.
3. If you represent a group, you may want to recognize others in attendance, or those you're representing."

Mr. Suter advised the H.R. Manager Heidi Hoke would be calling off names in order of the signup sheet.

The following agencies presented their funding request:

1. Tracy Lyons, Chamber of Commerce
2. Janelle Vess, Rockbridge Regional Fair and Expo, Inc.
3. Ilia Desjardins, Talking Book Program

4. Bobbie Wagner, The Y
5. Michelle Watkins, Rockbridge Area Transportation Center
6. William Snow, FOR Swimming
7. Spencer McElroy, Lime Kiln Theater
8. Bonnie Riedesel, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission
9. Elise Sheffield, Boxerwood
10. Dinah Hupman, Department of Social Services
11. Gayl Brunk, Valley Association of Independent Living
12. John Whitfield, Blue Ridge Legal Services
13. Joyce Krech, Shenandoah Valley Partnership
14. Julie Goyette, Rockbridge Regional Library System
15. Kimberly Shaw, Rockbridge Area Community Services Board
16. Laura Hotinger, Valley Program for Aging Services
17. Shadrey Sands, Rockbridge Area Relief Association
18. Jay Langston- Shenandoah Valley Partnership
19. Terri Kerr- Habitat for Humanity

Vice-Chair Ayers shared the following comment:

"This concludes our scheduled budget meeting #1. We appreciate your attendance and for the information provided tonight. The Board's Finance Committee will be meeting over the next two weeks to further review and develop a draft budget for the full Board to consider. Our next scheduled Budget Meeting is on Thursday, February 24th beginning at 5:30 p.m. in this room. The County Administrator will present the draft 2023 budget to the Board of Supervisors."

Adjournment:

Supervisor Lyons moved to adjourn. A second was provided by Supervisor Day, and the motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Lyons, Day, McDaniel, Ayers
Nays: None
Absent: Lewis
Abstain: None