

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ADJOURNED MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2004**

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Thursday, January 29, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building thereof;

PRESENT: David W. Ingram, Chairman; J. Fred Gerald, Vice Chairman; Diane B. Belcher, Jerry W. Boothe, Kerry W. Whitlock, Board Members; George W. Nester, County Administrator.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

A work session on the proposed FY05 budget was held. The Board devoted an extended time discussing the proposed budget. The main conversation centered around the required levies to be applied to personal property and real estate. The County Administrator was asked if he had reviewed the revised budget. The County Administrator reported that he had reviewed the budget and several issues were discussed. The County Administrator reported that he had found two changes in the projected revenues. He reported that based on assessments by the Commissioner of Revenue and the State Corporation Commission, an additional \$18,000 would be added to the proposed budget.

Discussion continued regarding various expenditures in the budget. Discussion included how the County will deal with issues of economic development and tourism. The option from the Jacksonville Center to help conduct a tourist information center was discussed again. The consensus of the Board was that this was a good idea, however, they felt that at the present time they were uncomfortable to put funding into the Jacksonville Center to allow them to serve as a tourist visitation center. The primary concern was based on accountability and how the promotion and operation of the tourist development center would be operated.

Supervisor Boothe indicated his preference for the County to fund a planning and economic development position as had been proposed. Discussion continued regarding the need for this position. The County Administrator reported that under our present agreement with Branwick Associates that the County would buy the building if a tenant had not been found within three years after the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. The County, by agreement, must buy the building for \$3.0 million. He also noted that the County has approximately 24 months to secure \$3.8 million in private investment to meet the requirements of the \$375,000

industrial access grant. The Board agreed that this position would also be able to work with the local planning commission and assist in administering the subdivision ordinance. An increased demand is being placed on the Building Official to implement the requirements of the State Building Code and the State Erosion Sediment Control Act. It was the consensus of the Board that the addition of the planning and economic development position should be placed back in the budget at the proposed salary of \$40,000 plus corresponding adjustments to the fringe benefits line items.

Issues related to school funding were discussed, and it was the consensus of the Board that the County funding should remain at the same level as the 2004 appropriation of \$6,178,496. The Board noted that the State share of revenue had increased from \$8,828,782 in FY04 up to \$9,674,983 in the proposed budget. The State increase alone amounts to \$846,201. The total budget including all revenue sources reflects an increase of \$938,381 for the Schools.

On a motion of Supervisor Whitlock, it was resolved that the County Administrator be authorized to advertise for a public hearing on a real estate rate of \$0.65/\$100 and a personal property rate of \$2.75/\$100, and that the Board authorize the implementation of twice a year collection of personal property beginning with the first half personal property being paid in June 2005.

Motion failed due to lack of a second.

The Chairman noted that the Board had agreed to suspend the meeting at 10:00 p.m. and it was apparent that additional time was needed to complete the decision on the tax levies.

On a motion of Supervisor Whitlock, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and carried, it was resolved to continue the meeting for an additional hour past the 10:00 p.m. suspense time.

Supervisor Boothe - aye
Supervisor Whitlock - aye
Supervisor Belcher - aye
Supervisor Gerald - nay
Supervisor Ingram - aye

The Board ran various levy options to assess the impact on citizens. Supervisor Boothe noted the option of the County to use the one-time windfall from twice a year collection of personal property.

On a motion of Supervisor Whitlock, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and carried, it was resolved that the County Administrator be authorized to advertise for a public hearing, date and time based on the Code requirements, on a real estate rate of \$0.66/\$100 and a personal property rate of \$3.00/\$100, and that the Board authorize the implementation of twice a year collection of personal property beginning with the first half personal property being paid in June 2005.

Supervisor Boothe - aye
Supervisor Whitlock - aye

Supervisor Belcher - aye
Supervisor Gerald - nay
Supervisor Ingram - aye

Chairman Ingram stressed the importance of the Board working and standing together on the budget and the levy. Supervisor Gerald agreed regarding the importance of the Board remaining united.

The Chairman reminded the Supervisors of the work session with the Planning Commission to review the proposed Manufactured Home Park Ordinance on Tuesday, February 3, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building.

On a motion of Supervisor Gerald, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to Tuesday, February 3, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. for a joint work session with the Floyd - Floyd County Planning Commission.

Supervisor Boothe - aye
Supervisor Whitlock - aye
Supervisor Belcher - aye
Supervisor Gerald - aye
Supervisor Ingram - aye