

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2007**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Tuesday, August 14, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, thereof;

PRESENT: David W. Ingram, Chairman; Jerry W. Boothe, Vice Chairman; Diane B. Belcher, J. Fred Gerald, Kerry W. Whitlock, Board Members; Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator; Terri W. Morris, Assistant County Administrator.

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with the reading of the handicapping statement.

The Opening Prayer was led by Supervisor Gerald.

Supervisor Belcher led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Deronda Thomas, Treasurer, appeared before the Board. She presented the invested cash as of August 14, 2007. She also presented the delinquent real estate and personal property tax lists for 2006. She reported real estate collections at 98.5% and personal property collections at 98.2%. She reminded the Board that, according to Virginia Code Section 58.1-3924, the delinquent lists can/cannot be advertised, as to the Board's decision.

Mrs. Morris presented the balance sheet ending July 31, 2007. She reported that at 8% into the fiscal year, General Fund revenue collections are at 3%, and General Fund expenses are at 16%. She reminded the Board that the expense percentage is somewhat skewed because of large debt payments that are made in July for the schools and County. The FY07 fiscal year close was performed without incident. Staff is working on preparation of revenue and expense accruals for the audit.

The minutes of July 10, 2007 and July 19, 2007 were presented to the Board for review and approval.

On a motion of Supervisor Whitlock, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of July 10, 2007 as presented.

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

Supervisor Ingram - aye

On a motion of Supervisor Whitlock, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of July 19, 2007 as presented.

Supervisor Belcher - abstain - not present at meeting because of illness

Supervisor Whitlock - aye

Supervisor Gerald - aye

Supervisor Boothe - aye

Supervisor Ingram - aye

Sheriff Shannon Zeman next appeared before the Board. He reported:

- Audit - back when I attended the Sheriff's Conference, there was some discussion of some changes under the Code of Virginia, Section 847, that deals with audits. I received an e-mail yesterday from Mr. Campbell concerning an audit. There was no mention of the cost for this, but I'm sure there will be some expense, and I think he's going to talk to you further about it today, but there is an issue of some audit situations that may require some funding.
- On a good note, we did have our first training session for our school entry team. We have probably a third of the equipment on order, around \$9000. We have the blueprints in hand, working on the keys, we spent three hours at the high school making some decisions about certain things, we've been in contact with Blacksburg Tactical Team, and will shortly have some type of training session with them, practical exercises at the school. We're moving along and I'm real pleased with that.
- Thompson & Litton proposal on Dispatch Center - Dan will touch base with you later on their proposal. We've been in touch and communicated, and worked together on this, and thank you for your continued support.
- Staffing - we did promote someone within the office to the road position, and are advertising at this time for a Dispatcher.
- We did get a purchase order for a new vehicle. Will not probably be built until October or November, and will probably be next year before we get it and have to pay for it. I'm doing like I did last year, trying to do three instead of two, getting some used vehicles. I'd like to ask if Mr. Campbell and I can work together to get the vehicles instead of bothering the Board with it. Consensus of the Board was for staff to work with the Sheriff on the matter.

Supervisor Whitlock left the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

At 9:00 a.m., the Chairman called for the Public Comment Period.

Mr. Bill Crabtree - I'm here to present to you a challenge to come out and ride down Shelor Road, continue straight onto Maple Shade, and see the dramatic difference in the paving job that was recently done by VDoT. I have here a letter of correspondence that I had with Mr. Beasley, prior to the final job that they just recently did, and quite frankly, I'm so upset about it,

that I have not responded back to him yet, until I calm down. Initially, they came out and they used a motor grader to spread asphalt out. On the front is my letter to him, on the back is his response to me. When he responded back, I accepted his explanation, wrote him back and thanked him for his response. They used the motor grader, the job that was done out there was so bad, that truly I think the road was in better shape before they did the patching, than the way it was afterwards. But the stark contrast was you go to the Carroll County line, and the road is beautifully paved, smooth, no noise from your tires, no rocks being kicked up. In the past week and a half, they came out, and over this rough road, they poured an 1/8" of tar and spread pea gravel over it, which made it, in my opinion, a bad situation even worse, because now we're throwing up gravel everywhere. If you go to Phadettia Road and drive down it, they did it three years ago, you don't want to get close to the car in front of you because they're going to be kicking up gravel. Its almost like riding on a gravel road. So now our road up to the Carroll County line is still rough, you're kicking up gravel, its extremely noisy. You might ride out there yourself and ask why I'm complaining. But when you hit that Carroll County line, and what they did was a patch job. They did an area, skip an area, and then patch again. I would take the patch job they did in Carroll County vs. the complete resurfacing they did in Floyd any day of the week. I hear you folks on a regular basis, praising Mr. Beasley for the great work they do. I would challenge you to take a look at the difference. I'm wondering if Floyd County might be second cousins in getting what I consider quality paving. I don't know why our job doesn't match the job in Carroll County. I wanted to present that to you, I'm not through with it, I plan to write the head of VDoT. I've got photographs, I hope to put together a package and I'll submit it to you also so you can take a look at it. I took photographs of the "smearing" of the asphalt. It really bothers me, because I think we deserve quality work as well as other Counties. I appreciate your time and thank you kindly.

After no further comments from the audience, the Chairman declared the Public Comment Period closed.

Mr. Kevin Byrd, New River Valley Planning District Commission, next appeared before the Board. He commented: I'm here before you today concerning a grant application that the Planning Commission is submitting on behalf of the region. Its called the Southern River Watershed Enhancement Program offered through the Department of Housing and Community Development. It is for non-Chesapeake Bay funded activities. The grant application is for planning grants to improve water quality in streams and groundwater, based on substandard wastewater treatment plants. This can take on many different faces in terms of where the grant program goes. One of the primary objectives is to fix discharge situations. For example, if you have a straight piping in a community. They also want to look at insufficient septic systems if there are some out there that might be antiquated. Also to look at cesspools, and identify impacted waterways. There are several impacted waterways identified in our region, and they want to see if those are being affected by substandard wastewater treatment. The planning grant proposal that we have, for \$150,000, proposed to be divided \$37,500 for each County, with no match requirement. Its basically a research project in two phases. There is a needs assessment and prioritization so we can find out where our needs are in the Counties. The State corridor group would prioritize them. The State corridor group would consist of County staff, PSA

member, so they know what is happening in the communities and could bring that information to the group, so it would be a local decision to prioritize. Those with the highest prioritization would be eligible for preliminary engineering reports (PER). With the \$37,500 available for each County, a needs assessment could be done, and follow through with the PER if they decide that's what they want to do. It's an informational process to determine where some of the systems are, what they look like, and how to resolve that. Currently, we have letters of support from Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski Counties, resolution from Montgomery County, and would like the same from Floyd County. There is no local match required, and there will be funds available to assist homeowners with faulty systems. Mr. Byrd also presented a proposed resolution for the Board's consideration.

- Mr. Michael Maslaney, Town Manager, next appeared before the Board. He reported:
 - Facade program has kicked off big time now. Oddfellas and Bell Gallery is pretty much torn up, and going back together hopefully soon. They did a good job on Winter Sun, re-doing the front and getting the bricks stabilized, and work is beginning on the back of the Spessard building. I heard yesterday that they reached into the back of the building and came out with a handful of dust, so obviously, they'll have to re-build the wall and it will be a lot of expensive work. They are moving forward, and the contractor is doing a good job.
 - Parking lot - contract signed last week. Supposed to start mobilization this week, supposed to start digging next week. They will start with the sidewalk between the Winter Sun and Angels in the Attic, tear that up first of all, putting in the new foundation and retaining wall, and then move across the street to the parking lot. Consequently, we'll be closing that parking lot which, as we know, will affect everybody because of it being a popular spot, especially on Friday nights, it will be an issue in Town. We're trying to do some things to help solve that by providing extra parking spaces down behind the Winter Sun, but most of the overflow will go to the Courthouse parking lot and on the streets. Probably will be shut down for 5-6 weeks, we'll try to get it opened up as soon as they get gravel down and get it stabilized. But it is moving forward rapidly, and we'll all be happy when it's done.
 - Restrooms - lowest bidder has been chosen. Two contractors on this project, Professional Builders out of Riner, and Streamline Timberworks, right here in downtown Floyd. We are currently entering negotiations with them, of course, there's that price cutting thing that you have to go through, as I'm sure you're all aware. Never quite comes in at the budget level that we expect.
 - Enhancement Grant - continuing on, still in the planning stage. We're meeting on a 2-4 week schedule now with all the committees trying to make decisions on what is happening there.
 - High pressure water line is in, and was tested yesterday. As far as I know there was not any explosions or eruptions anywhere, or major leaks. That's pretty close to being turned on and will be a great addition for everybody. There will be two new high pressure hydrants in the Town, which will be great.
 - Town is acquiring the Pentecostal Church which is right next door to the Council Chambers. We've negotiated a contract with them to provide more room, mostly Council

room now. Will probably be several months before we can close on it because of issues with the church. There are very few members, with only one living Trustee now, so the lawyers are trying to figure out all the paperwork for the deal. The Town is trying to get a little bit more space, because we're pushing at the seams where we are.

- Occupancy Tax issue is still on the agenda for this Thursday night. The Council will probably vote on it. There was a public hearing last time and several people spoke up about it.
- The new road, Rick Lewis Lane, to the new hotel, construction will start next week. They have already started working on the parking lot, leveling it out. I think we'll all be happy when they get the new road in there and get some of the drainage issues squared away, it will look a lot nicer, and give people room to move around. I think that was the best solution all the way around, it works for everybody.
- U.S. Cellular is putting an antenna on the water tower. The Town Council has approved a new ordinance and fee structure for that and they're going to be submitting their permit in the next couple of weeks. Probably be there for several years until they can get on the Verizon tower. There are some Federal regulations on the towers, and it takes a couple of years to get through the permitting process. They wanted something local, and picked the water tower, and the Town was the most advantageous place.
- The skunk problem is under control, even though you can still smell them. We've trapped nine so far. Actually most of them are coming out behind Fabric Cutters, we've trapped four there. Next to Skip Bishop's house, we got 2-3, 2 at Mike Patton's house, and one behind Autoville. We are winning on that. The trappers are transporting them to Roanoke.

Supervisor Whitlock re-entered the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Mrs. Lydeana Martin, Subdivision Agent, next appeared before the Board. She presented the plats she approved for July 2007. She commented that it seemed to be an average month. If we average the three previous years, it was about average for the number of lots created, about 113 to date for the year. The Planning Commission had their August meeting last week and had no plats on their agenda. Maybe the Spring and Summer rush is over.

- Soil Survey - I did speak with Cynthia Hancock last week, with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, who as you'll recall, is working on the soil survey again. Last year, about this time, they told us that all the field work had been completed and this next year they would be digitizing the maps, so we should have something by this October. She said last week, in another year, we should have everything for you. At this time they're working on the narrative that accompanies the maps. Again, she said that if there are specific areas that we need information on, if we contact them, the information may be available but just not in a readable format. In the end, I understood her to say that it would be a web-based format, that people will be able to access the soil information readily and easily. So hopefully we'll get that soon.

- Reminder about Harvest Festival that's coming up on Saturday, September 15. It will be from 10 am to 4 pm. As of right now, it will be similar to last year, at the Recreation Park. There will be no on-site parking, a shuttle system will be used from the schools and Courthouse. There will be two buses running this year, instead of one like last year. During the high point of

the day, there were times when it got too crowded. Off-site activities will include the Jacksonville Center having some special things going on, such as working with Jason Rutledge to have a horse pull of some type; the Country Store is going to host a couple of free music shows that day and a free drawing for gift certificates; a couple of the Alpaca farms are doing a farm day on their sites.

- September 27, 2007 - we are having our second Entrepreneur Workshop similar to what we did in February. The morning session will actually be a repeat of that February session, the basics of marketing, business ownership. The afternoon will be break-out sessions going into more depth for people who may have attended in February but want to come back for a little more information, and more one on one time. It will be at the Jacksonville Center again from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- Presented copies of articles from the Miami Herald and Special Living magazine concerning Floyd County.

- Conservation easements - a list had been being prepared by Kristie Turman in the Commissioner's Office, but since she has left, I'm not sure how that will be handled. The last number we had, from January, was 1.5% of acreage is in easements.

The monthly disbursements were presented to the Board for review and consideration. A list of additional expenses was also presented for the Board's review. Questions and discussion followed.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Whitlock, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the monthly disbursements, plus additions, with the deletion of vendor invoice 38040, in the amount of \$31,317.00.

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

Ms. Dawn Barnes, Virginia Cooperative Extension, next appeared before the Board. She reported:

- A&R position has been vacant since mid-June. Interviews are now being done at the State level to see the person's fit with Extension as a whole, determine the person's interests, then interview at the County level. Hope to have local interviews the first part of September.

- Master Gardner Coordinator - housed in Montgomery County, but serves the entire area. This position is also presently vacant, it is a part-time position, and we are trying to re-fill it.

- Presented copy of quarterly report for April - June, 2007, for the Board's information.

- Drought conditions - Floyd County is in an abnormally dry range. We will be glad to help in any way if the Board decides to apply for assistance.

Mr. Ford Wirt, Emergency Services Coordinator, next appeared before the Board. He reported on the following:

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with State Department of Emergency Management. As a result of changes, localities can no longer receive individual allocations as they have in the past. The State has received a reduction of 49% from the Federal Department of Homeland Security. There are not enough funds to allocate to individual localities. This year, allocations will be done on a State or Regional basis. They have allocated those funds into three different areas: 1) State-wide training; 2) State-wide exercise programs; 3) Regional exercise programs. These are the only areas that Homeland Security funds will fund. This puts a definite damper on where we are in completing our communication project. In order to accomplish what they're attempting to do, they are asking each locality to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that this is how the funds will be allocated this coming year. We don't, at this particular time, have any projects scheduled for a regional aspect, but in the event that something comes up in the next year, if we do not complete the Memorandum of Understanding, then we would not be in line to work with a regional project. So they really don't give you a choice except to sign the agreement. Presented a draft copy for the Board's review.

On a motion of Supervisor Belcher, seconded by Supervisor Whitlock, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding between Floyd County and Virginia Department of Emergency Management, as presented (Document File Number _____).

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

- Station #3 Fire Department and Station #2 Fire Department paving - we have extreme deterioration of the lots. Station #3, the damage is primarily from the school bus turning around, and our garbage truck unloading the green box. Station #2, each of the seams in that particular lot has opened up anywhere from 1/2" - 1" and there is grass growing up in those. If we don't do something prior to winter, the cost will be higher. We received two bids from our advertisement. One is \$22,500 for Station #2, \$3700 for Station #3. The other estimate is \$24,682 for Station #2, and \$3700 for Station #3. To fund these projects, we did carry-over \$15,600 from the FY07 budget, in anticipation of this project. Our contingency line item is \$40,000, which gives us \$55,600. If we were to accept the lower bid of \$28,382, that would leave a balance in Contingency of over \$27,000. The warranty is the same for both bidders. Consensus of the Board was to accept the low bid in the amount of \$28,382.

- Homeland Security Funds - we will not be receiving any more funds, which hampers our need to complete the communication system. We have \$200,000 sitting in grant funds that we can't move forward on, because we don't have a site for the antennas and repeater. We thought we had something working with Poor Mountain, but the lady that owns the site, her husband died, she didn't even know she owned the site. We have been in contact with her 10-15 times, the last time we met with her, she said she appreciated our time, but she didn't need the money and didn't want the hassle. So that idea was abandoned. We have met with a Mr. Shaver in the Check area, and this is something we have not publicized because cell companies are

grabbing every site they can, and we have not said where this site is. We need to move forward with doing something. The problem is with no new funds coming in, is how do we fund this? We're looking at somewhere between \$250,000 - 275,000 to establish the site. If we were to move forward with that, the site would be compatible to work with cell companies to put their equipment at the site also. No guarantees that this would take place. The tower and building could service three different cell companies. They pay anywhere from \$1500-2000/month. Those aren't any guarantees. That is a way to possibly recoup some of our funds. I need assistance as to what way to go. Right now, our communication system is 100% better than what we had, but we're 100% short of where we need to be. When we get in the Check area, Shawsville Pike area, Copper Hill area, its very sporadic as to whether we have communication or not. Just like its always been. This would solve that area. The gentleman that we're working with is very enthused about using his site. He's interested not only in assisting the County, but enhancing the cell coverage in that particular area. There are ways of reducing that cost somewhat. We could just accommodate our radio system, but if you go that way, you don't have the option of having revenue coming back in. In other words, you would put up something that would support only our antenna. Again, you're looking at somewhere at between \$250,00-275,000. The grant has to be used by December 31, or it has to be returned. We can get an extension, if we have a solid plan in place that we can go to the people that gave us the grant, and sit down with them, and say here is our problem, here's what we're doing, and here's our plan. It has to be a concrete plan. You can't say maybe we're going to do something. I'll be back next month to talk with you, and we'll be looking for more options.

Mrs. Myra Grim, EMS Administrative Clerk, next appeared before the Board. She reported that Mr. Dalton and Mr. Love were out on a call, and would be unable to attend the meeting. She presented the report for Mr. Dalton for the career staff. She did note 43 calls each for career and volunteer staff during the month of July. The calls have been up considerably during the month. The 43 calls were only transports, does not include the other calls. In her report, seems to be pretty much the same. With July being the first month of the new fiscal year, you will note that the uncollectibles for aging have been written off. Deposits remain about the same, ranging from \$24,000-28,000.

Agenda Item 8b - Request for qualifications for General Reassessment. Mr. Campbell reported that only one bid was received from the advertisement, from Wingate & Associates. Would suggest that a committee be set up to interview the firm, possibly a Board member or two, the Commissioner of Revenue, and himself. Would like to relay concerns from previous assessments and negotiate a fair fee for the services. The work should begin in October with the sales study analysis, with the field work beginning 30 days later. After discussion, the Chairman appointed a committee of the County Administrator, Vice Chairman Boothe, and the Commissioner of Revenue to interview the prospective bidder.

Dr. Terry Arbogast, School Superintendent, next appeared before the Board. He reported:

- Presented copy of school calendar for the upcoming year;
- Presented copy of School Board meeting highlights from August 13, 2007 meeting;

- Presented copy of SOL test scores for 2007;
- A local Education Foundation has been established for citizens to contribute funds for various projects in a tax exempt status;
- Adding horticulture section to our agriculture program, a greenhouse has been donated for the students use;
- School opening kickoff is set for 8:00 a.m. on August 15, 2007 - Board and staff are invited to participate;
- We are installing a new communication system for notices to parents. The system can make 10,000 calls in a matter of minutes. Parents can prioritize their own numbers to stay in touch. We can relay information on school closings, emergencies, etc.

The Board recessed for lunch.

Mr. Bob Beasley, VDoT Residency Administrator, appeared before the Board. He reported:

- The Watch for Children signs requested for Macks Mountain and Reece Road were denied, because of lack of density (houses). All twelve Counties in the District are assessed under the same scrutiny. He reported that the signs are already up, but hope not to have to take them down. Supervisor Gerald requested to be given the name and address of the top person in VDoT if they are taken down. Discussion followed on the possible erection of a deaf child area sign if the watch for children signs are removed.

- Route 642/221 intersection - Study indicated that there are existing warning signs and reduced speed limit signs at the site. Would have to buy additional right-of-way to make improvements, which is cost prohibitive. Suggest that the property owner be approached to cut back limbs and parking be prohibited on South side of existing building. This would have to be a construction project.

Supervisor Boothe - appreciate work that has been done;

- noticed that there are a lot of limbs and brush blocking signs where they can't be read, especially on secondary roads. Especially should concentrate on intersections. Some of the signs within Town limits also are not able to be seen because of limbs.

Supervisor Gerald - bridge before Route 740 - status?

Mr. Beasley - have patched the hole, it is not dangerous. There has been a shift on the bridge from high water but it is not dangerous.

Supervisor Gerald - not my district, but I noticed a hole coming up in the bridge at Canning Factory Road also.

Mr. Beasley - yes there is, we have it on our list for repairs.

Supervisor Gerald - appreciate all the things you have done;

- replacement of painted lines needs to be done on several roads - Indian Valley

Road/Rocky Hill Road/Indian Valley Fire Station section.

- Route 619, Horse Ridge Road - yellow lines have been done and then they quit again;
- Macks Mountain Road - needs yellow and white lines repainted;
- Route 758 - appreciate the work done for patching/repairing.

Supervisor Whitlock - will the markers be put back on Route 221 where paving was done?

Mr. Beasley - yes, it is done by a district-wide contract when paving is completed.

Supervisor Whitlock - what is the progress on Route 681 bridge?

Mr. Beasley - there was not good material under the bridge so we had to add a sub-footer, and will probably have to do the same on the other side. Will probably be the first week in September for completion.

Supervisor Whitlock - I concur with Supervisor Boothe on opening up intersections. The Kelly School Road/Franklin Pike intersection is very bad with grown up grass;

- some secondary roads have not been mowed yet;
- appreciate what has been done

Supervisor Belcher - Route 799 - paving looks good and we appreciate the lines;

- need grading on Routes 805, 771, 783;
- please explain the situation with Shelor Road

Mr. Beasley - we had bad breakup on the road from the winter. We had to do a large patch job. We had a standing contract in Carroll County for this type of work. Our contract with a company for Floyd County, the company was sold and the new contractor did not honor the contract. So, we had to do the job with State forces. There were rough spots but it was strengthened and patched. Should be surface treated within the next couple of weeks.

Supervisor Belcher - feel you will be hearing from those folks again that the Carroll County part was so much better than Floyd County.

Supervisor Ingram - Route 642/221 intersection - did they get the speed study for Route 642 North?

Mr. Beasley - not sure, I'll have to check.

Supervisor Ingram - I echo what the others have said, secondary roads need mowing for safety reasons, especially intersections. I know staffing has become an issue at the Check headquarters to be able to get a crew together. We do need some help with manpower.

Mr. Steve Swartz, Chairman, of the Rocky Knob Committee, next appeared before the

Board. He reported: A couple of years ago, an open invitation was sent out that anyone interested in the Rocky Knob area of the Blue Ridge Parkway, to come to a meeting at Chateau Morrisette, to hear Congressman Rick Boucher tell us he was giving us some money and a challenge. What he did, he challenged us to develop an idea that would feature our local culture and enhance our economy, and attract visitors. He didn't want us to duplicate any existing businesses. He wanted us to implement the idea, whatever we came up with by ourselves, and for our idea to be sustainable in the long term. That was basically it. A blank sheet of paper with maybe a border around it. What he did do for us, he brought the promise of a little over a million dollars over a period of time, at that time it was five years, which has kept slipping, along with the amount. It amounts to over the next four years, that we were eligible to receive and spend a little over \$1.02 million of Federal funds. That doesn't pay for everything. Also we will receive from the State of Virginia, about \$255,000, again, over a time period. Kind of like a letter of credit, if you need it, its available, you pay for it, and we'll reimburse you. We also have some local funds, and I thank you and Patrick County, for the funds for our working capital. Things like paper, post office boxes, paper clips, that the Federal funds won't pay for. We have the responsibility to not waste a little over \$2 million, with hints of more if we need it. Now, who wouldn't like a challenge like that? About 80-90 of us showed up at that meeting. What did we decide to do with the challenge to spend that money? Well, we realized that 80-100 people sitting on a committee weren't going to get a thing done. So we broke up into specific sub-committees, like the Executive Committee, a group to look at sites, another committee to look at ideas. We did, everybody did their thing. We came up with 80-100 good ideas, narrowed them down into four broad themes, but we had no idea what the traveling public would be willing to spend their money to see or do. Furthermore, we had no way to measure what they wanted, by ourselves. We decided we needed some professional outside assistance to help us do that analysis. We also found out, we always intended to be a tax exempt organization. If we're tax exempt, we can get grant funds. We also discovered that applying for tax exempt status had become a whole lot more complicated than it was just a year ago. What was a 3 page form was a 28 page form. We realized once again, that in and of ourselves, we didn't have the expertise to make sure it was done right. We decided that we needed more outside help to do the application form right. Fewer and fewer people were maintaining their interest in developing an original idea. Importantly, to be a tax exempt organization, you had to be an organization. So, ergo, this is what I'm reporting on today. We formed that organization by studying the various types of organizations allowed in Virginia law. We looked at the maximum operating flexibility due us for our very non-descript but high powered charge, and we selected to be a non-stock corporation under Virginia law, tax exempt for purposes of charitable, educational and scientific activities. We figured we'd hit every allowable tax exempt base there was. But also, that circle fit around all the ideas we had. So, in 2007, we officially became Blue Ridge Heritage, Inc., a non-stock corporation in Virginia. Since that time, we have made some pretty major steps. We filed our Articles of Incorporation with the State Corporation Commission and in doing so, we had to name an initial Board of Directors. The initial Board of Directors is made up of ten people, representing both Counties. We started out with Floyd and Patrick, Carroll County joined somewhere in the middle, and dropped out somewhere later. These ten people represent the interests of both sides. We actually decided, with this Board of Directors, we do have three year terms, but we didn't want everybody's term to expire at the same time, so we needed to

stagger the terms. One way to do that was to assign some with one year terms, two year terms, and three year terms. We did that by listing everybody's name alphabetically, starting down from the top, the first third is three years, the next third is two years, the last third is one year. (Presented list of Board members and short background of each - list on file in County Administrator's Office). These are the people that are making the decisions about Blue Ridge Heritage and what it is we're going to do. We also adopted by-laws, elected officers, defined membership, and all the business things. We have four slots for officers, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. They prevailed upon me to act as President, Lee Chichester is Vice President, we also elected to have a dual role, with John Getgood serving as Secretary-Treasurer. We established a banking relationship with BB&T, which required us to obtain an employer id number, we employ no one, but we have a number. We're negotiating an agreement with the National Park Service to act as our banker for the Federal and State money. Before Blue Ridge Heritage was formed, some of that money became available, and the Federal and State officials couldn't give that money to just a group of volunteer people out there trying to think of something to do. So, the National Park Service agreed to act as our fiscal agent for the initial round of the Federal and State grants. Blue Ridge Heritage now serves as its own fiscal agent for all other funds and in the future if we get more Federal and/or State grants, now that we're an official legal corporation, we can act as our own banker. One good thing that the Park Service did was to give us an opportunity that we wouldn't have had otherwise. We also receive funds from both Floyd and Patrick Counties, and again, thank you very much. We issued press releases to the Floyd newspaper, the Stuart newspaper, and the Martinsville newspaper. Floyd and Stuart papers carried our press release, Martinsville did not. We are in the process of acquiring professional help for a gap analysis, which means we'll be trying to figure out what the traveling public is spending their money on, what's already out there that they are spending their money on, so we don't duplicate it. The Park Service has standing agreements with a bunch of educational institutions with professors who have expertise in these matters, who do studies for them. Its kind of an open ended agreement with the Federal government. They have a basic contract, and can add other things such as the analysis, where a cost can be negotiated. Our next Board meeting is Thursday night, and we have a final form of the analysis to be addressed. The Blue Ridge Heritage folks, before we even became a corporation, drafted a scope of service, that will help that professional know the areas we want answers to our questions, and to also tell them what we need to have done. That should be done in phases, its almost like a research project, we will ease into this slowly so they will understand our needs. We anticipate it will cost under \$200,000 to get such a study done. But we'll have answers to our questions such as - where do people come from, what do they spend their money on, do they require lodging, do they spend multiple days here, do they like a camping arrangement vs. a hotel arrangement. That will help us decide on our themes and our activities. We're also in the process of acquiring professional help to file for this tax exempt status on this 28 page form. Proposals were sent out to five agencies, due on Friday. We've already got one proposal, and looking for two more. Two said no thank you. That work will start on September 1, 2007. Our first annual membership meeting will be Saturday, September 27, 2007, and will be an annual meeting on the 4th September Saturday every year. There will be membership dues in the future, but the first year will be free. So please come and join us and help us in what we're trying to accomplish.

Mr. James E. Cornwell, County Attorney, next appeared before the Board.

Agenda Item 71(I) - Revisions of chapter 58 of Floyd County Code, Flood Hazard Reduction. The Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Conservation and Recreation, sent Jim Whitten a letter requesting certain changes to our Flood plain Ordinance. I have drafted those changes and I've given them back to him for review. I asked him that before we advertise them for a public hearing, that he send them back to the State and make sure they're happy with them. Presented a copy for the Board's review. I tried to make it the least restrictive as I could. Basically what we're doing is changing all the definitions and used their definitions. They asked for a freeboard elevation to be included, which is the foot above Flood plain. They also asked for requirements that when a structure is built or flood proofed, that a registered engineer certifies that fact. That's when you build a new structure or make a substantial improvement (more than 50% change), the cost of which equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure before they started the changes. Mr. Whitten said that most of these changes are already incorporated into the building code anyway. Mr. Whitten will submit the changes to the State for review and then we'll bring the item back to the Board to set a public hearing date.

On a motion of Supervisor Belcher, seconded by Supervisor Whitlock, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to go into closed session under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.1, discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body; Paragraph A.3, discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body; Paragraph A.7, consultation with legal counsel requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Whitlock, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to come out of closed session.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Whitlock, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the following certification resolution:

CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION

CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, this Board convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting to discuss personnel, property and legal matters in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.1, A.3 and A.7 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Before a vote is taken on this resolution, is there any member who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of number (1) or number (2)? If so, identify yourself and state the substance of the matter and why in your judgement it was a departure.

Hearing no statement, I call the question.

Supervisor Belcher - aye

Supervisor Whitlock - aye

Supervisor Gerald - aye

Supervisor Boothe - aye

Supervisor Ingram - aye

This Certification Resolution was adopted.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Belcher, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to transfer \$9000 from Contingency to 4-001-012090-1300 for additional part-time assistance for the Commissioner of Revenue.

Supervisor Belcher - aye

Supervisor Whitlock - aye

Supervisor Gerald - aye

Supervisor Boothe - aye

Supervisor Ingram - aye

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Whitlock, and carried, it was resolved to abolish the legal services position on the Floyd County CPMT.

Supervisor Belcher - aye

Supervisor Whitlock - aye

Supervisor Gerald - aye

Supervisor Boothe - aye

Supervisor Ingram - aye

Agenda Item 8c - E-911 Dispatch Center Project. Mr. Campbell presented a copy of the proposal from Thompson & Litton for the project. He reported on some issues with the proposal - deletion of Coordinator office in the drawings; correction on the square footage. The scope of

work on page two seems to cover everything that we need. Specific tasks section is also very good. Always a concern on costs, but we have negotiated the fees downward somewhat. The design fees cover proposed costs, we will have additional fees when it comes to the cost of advertising, the site survey will probably be necessary at \$3500, but we're not absolutely sure yet. There is some question on the fiber lines that may require some of the site survey funds. The rendering is something that is optional, its just a pretty drawing, and we'll have the blueprints. The fee for the rendering is around \$3000. The total cost of the project is estimated to be around \$400,000. We hope to advertise by Christmas, with construction to begin in the Spring.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Whitlock, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize approval of the contract with Thompson & Litton for the E911 Communication Center, with the deletion of the rendering from the contract.

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

Agenda Item 8d - Audit of internal controls in the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Campbell presented a proposal from Brown, Edwards for the said audit and commented that this is another part of the new audit regulations that we have no choice but to do.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Whitlock, and carried, it was resolved to authorize acceptance of the proposal from Brown, Edwards & Company for the audit of the Sheriff's Office internal controls, up to a cost of \$5000.00.

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

Discussion followed on the adoption of a drought resolution to expedite the process, if the application needs to be filed before the Board meets again.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Whitlock, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the drought resolution as presented (Document File Number).

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

Discussion followed on the presentation from Mr. Kevin Byrd on the Southern Rivers

Study.

On a motion of Supervisor Belcher, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the resolution as presented, for participation in the Southern Rivers Study (Document File Number).

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

Supervisor Boothe presented a copy of Senate Joint Resolution Number 354, Constitutional amendment which would exempt certain homeowners from taxation. He commented that both Houses had passed the amendment, but with no guidelines. He expressed concern about the County's lost revenue, shifting of burden more to businesses and industries, and the increase in real estate taxes being our only answer. It is an optional program now, but once it goes on the ballot, every locality will be asked to enact it. Consensus of the Board was for the County Administrator to write a letter to our legislators expressing concern about the proposed constitutional amendment.

Discussion followed on the request from the Treasurer for a decision as to whether to advertise the delinquent real estate and personal property tax lists.

On a motion of Supervisor Belcher, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize advertisement that the 2006 delinquent real estate and personal property tax lists are available for public review in the Treasurer's Office.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Belcher, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn.

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