

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2014**

At the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Tuesday, August 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, thereof;

PRESENT: Case C. Clinger, Chairman; J. Fred Gerald, Joe D. Turman, Lauren D. Yoder, Board Members; Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator; Terri W. Morris, Assistant County Administrator.

ABSENT: Virgel H. Allen, Vice Chairman, due to illness.

The 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 Turman led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of July 8 and July 22, 2014 were presented for the Board's review and approval.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of July 8, 2014 and July 22, 2014 as presented.

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Allen – absent
Supervisor Clinger - aye

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

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and carried, it was resolved to approve the monthly disbursements and additions as presented.

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Allen – absent
Supervisor Clinger - aye

Agenda Item 7a – Subdivision plats as approved by Agent for July 2014. Ms. Lydeana Martin, Subdivision Agent appeared before the Board. She noted that it has been a very busy

month for plats and running pretty much on par with last year at this time. The Planning Commission will have one conservation easement coming before them this month.

EDA update – Ms. Martin presented a brochure recently prepared showcasing the Floyd Flex Building (DEX building) and the Floyd Innovation Center. Hope to have a ribbon cutting in the latter part of September for the Innovation Center. A large mailing was sent out of the brochures to various businesses and other interested parties.

Agenda Item 7b – VML/VACo Financing – Equipment Lease Financing. Mr. Campbell reported that the refinancing will be able to be finalized during September and required documentation approved at that time. The refinancing will be for \$560,000 for 5.5 years at a fixed rate of 1.8-1.85%. The rate is slightly higher than the variable rate we've had heretofore but with the understanding of what may happen with the Federal Reserve in the next year, we were advised that it is a smart move to a fixed rate structure. One thing that will not be feasible is to look at additional financing for equipment, fixed rate equipment lease, because of the timing with one apparatus planned for the middle of 2015. It was further complicated by the fact that the second apparatus will probably be financed in mid-2017. I will say that they expressed a strong interest in working with us on the financing for the fire equipment at that time. There will be no closing costs associated with this transaction, future ones there would be.

Agenda Item 7c – Resolution – Fire/Rescue Fund transfer per Cost Allocation Plan. Mr. Campbell noted that the resolution for transfer is an annual request from the Fire/Rescue Fund to the General Fund. Schedule 1C of the provided Cost Allocation Plan defines the amount of transfer of \$134,124 for overhead and indirect costs.

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and carried, it was resolved to approve the resolution as presented for transfer of \$134,124 from the Fire/Rescue Fund to the General Fund based on the Cost Allocation Plan (Document File Number _____).

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Allen – absent
Supervisor Clinger - aye

Agenda Item 7d – FY15 Performance Contract – Floyd County/New River Valley Community Services Board. Mr. Campbell noted that this annual contract is provided with few changes from previous years. Page 5 includes a new section on psychological services from new State regulations; page 9 provides the Community Service Board's responsibilities; page 16 gives a breakdown of the State responsibilities; budget summary at the end indicates a budget of \$44,022,815.00. Greatest percentage of the budget is provided for mental health and developmental services, small percentage for substance abuse services.

On a motion of Supervisor Gerald, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and carried, it was resolved to approve the FY15 Performance Contract between Floyd County, New River Valley Community Services Board and the Commonwealth of Virginia, as presented.

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – abstain

Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Allen – absent
Supervisor Clinger - aye

Agenda Item 7e – Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library Board of Directors – change appointment to four years from three years. Mr. Campbell reported an error in the term that the Board did for Ms. Saunders. The appointment should have been for four years instead of three.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and carried, it was resolved to approve the appointment change to four years for Ms. Cynthia Saunders to the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library Board, term ending June 30, 2018.

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Allen – absent
Supervisor Clinger - aye

Agenda Item 7f – Proposal – Phase I ESA – Commerce Center. Mr. Campbell provided a proposal from Anderson & Associates for the Phase I study in the amount of \$9700.00. They are proposing to do a standard Phase I with some additional concentration on the oil separation unit area of the facility. This involves the Commerce Center property. They would complete the work by September 23 and provide a report to you. They will start the background work as soon as we provide the go-ahead. They will interview certain parties of the County, probably Lydeana and I as part of the study. There is some language under Terms and Conditions that we will have to discuss with them a bit further. The primary one, item #4, they asked for a blanket indemnification or hold harmless clause, meaning that we would indemnify them and their contractor. The Code of Virginia does not allow us to do that. That should not be an area to break down the contract.

On a motion of Super Turman, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and carried, it was resolved to accept the proposal from Anderson & Associates as presented and authorize the County Administrator to proceed with the proposal as outlined (Document File Number).

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Allen – absent
Supervisor Clinger - aye

Agenda Item 7g – Resolution for Establishing the Method of Computing and Reflecting Tax Relief Pursuant to the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998-Specific Relief. Mr. Campbell noted that this is also an annual process. According to the Treasurer and Commissioner of Revenue, the percentage that they'll need to apply to expend all the \$925,000 PPTRA funds, is 41.93%. This percentage is applied across the board to all vehicles.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and carried, it was resolved to approve the Resolution for Establishing the Method of Computing and Reflecting

Tax Relief Pursuant to the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998-Specific Relief, as presented (Document File _____).

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Allen – absent
Supervisor Clinger - aye

There were no Constitutional Officers reports for the month.

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

Ms. Jane Cundiff – my husband Ken and I are landowners in Floyd County. My husband's family has lived in these mountains since the 1700's. Together, we have lived all over the world, in seven different countries. We chose to come back here to Floyd to make it our home. This beautiful land, these amazing forests, the diverse wildlife, the sweet, fresh flowing water and the wonderful people of this area are why we call it home. The Mountain Valley pipeline is planning to come right through these precious resources and plow a deep wound right across our property. Across a wetland that is the home of beavers, salamanders, wildflowers, bird and turtle habitats. Our mountain marsh and all of the wetlands that will be damaged by the pipeline are the re-charge areas for the fresh water supply in our county. Without them, many of our wells will run dry. They tell us that natural gas is needed for our energy supply, making it sound like a good thing. But natural gas is a fossil fuel. It is methane, a greenhouse gas 25 times more powerful than carbon dioxide. If they really wanted to do the right thing, they would be helping people to reduce their energy needs, not frack the land and gouge through it with pipelines to make rich people richer. This pipeline is not good for the people of Floyd County. I sincerely ask that the Board of Supervisors do all they can to help protect our wildlife, our forests and especially our precious water and wetlands – to stop this pipeline. For without these things we will no longer have what we love about this land. No water flows into Floyd County. We need our wonderful community to protect our shared resources. These beautiful, pristine mountains are special in the world, I know, I've been all over the place, this is a very special place and we want to keep it that way. Thank you.

Ms. Deborah Harris – my husband Fred and I are landowners, we have not been contacted. However, I feel that any of us who have not been contacted or even the ones who have, we are all impacted by this. I realize that there are pipelines criss-crossing this country and I think that's sad. It only indicated that people are willing to sacrifice our environment, all that is precious and sustains us, to have their big screen TVs, their utility lights, etc. I don't agree with it. I believe that the water in this county is in fractured layers, blasting ten miles away could ruin someone's life. We have everything we have invested in our home, without water it will be worthless. Not only that, I have done some research. I found that people who have a mortgage on their land will find that the mortgage can be called in if there is a pipeline on it. They cannot get a mortgage on a property with a pipeline. Insurance rates will likely go up. Besides that, without water, life is worthless. I would like to see Floyd spare the folly of this short-sighted, ill advised, greed motivated project. Thank you.

Ms. Darla Vest – my husband and his family have been here for generations, I've only been here for about 16 years. I've lived all over the country. This is a beautiful spot to live in with fresh water, clean air, and that's why I want to live here. I'd like to ask the Supervisors to do something to stop this pipeline coming through. We don't have a Walmart here to dirty our air, we don't have traffic lights all over the place to stop traffic. I want you to protect our water and clean air. I'm asking you to do something about it. Whatever you can do to stop it, I'm asking you to do it for all of us. Thank you.

Ms. Kathlene Ingoldsby, Courthouse District – My husband and I have close to 50 acres, we have shepherded that land since moving here in 1980. I want to personally tell you how much I appreciate the past actions of the Board in efforts to conserve the natural and cultural resources as well as, at the same time, shepherd the growth and stability of the people of Floyd County. I want to thank you for that. It seems right now that Floyd County is being told to do a giant back flip, to move backward. To move from rural sensibilities into industrial restrictions and regimentation, pretty much overnight without having a say in it. There is much learning if there is a 42" pipeline that is going to come through your backyard. I believe it is larger than the Keystone Pipeline. People are confused and there is a huge learning curve. I've assembled some documents because I have concerns for the process and the results as it affects the County. There are regulations to protect our resources, both human and natural, but these have been weakened as of late through a series of legislation, while at the same time legislation supporting the rights of energy exploration, development and transport have been strengthened. NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act, is the rule of law as well as Section 106 for cultural and historic resources, is the rule that would apply here. There has been a recent ruling in June by Riverkeepers that utilize this rule that was successful. We do have a section of the Little River that has been deemed eligible for scenic river status. It did not receive the final designation because I believe there were property rights. Twenty years ago I worked on it in Montgomery County, they did not go to the final step. But having been deemed eligible from the Route 8 to the New River does afford some protections because it has the same qualities as if it had the final designation because the process was followed through to that point and it was approved. The two companies involved here are substantial and long-standing. They are old companies. EQT was Equatrans and NextEra was Florida Power and Light. They are substantial and well financed. My concern is no matter how many assurances the county gets from the principal companies and their subsidiaries and the spinoffs, that the chain of command weakens as subcontractors come in. Once damage is done, there is not much you can do to backpedal because this is a substantial incursion into the county. I'm asking the Board to be proactive in specifying the process and protecting what we can of our natural, cultural and historic resources and especially the agricultural lands which will be most threatened. Thank you.

Ms. Loretta Opus, Courthouse District – I have 50 acres right off Dusty Rock Road. I want to thank you all for working with us. I think personally that the gas line is a bad idea. I think Floyd people think it is a bad idea and I think you all think it is a bad idea. I think we are all on the same page. Whatever we can do to help you, just let us know. Thank you.

Ms. Pat Bonsignore, Little River District – that lady does not speak for me. I've come here to talk to you about the Planning Commission. I'd like to ask you to check your vision, you are supervisors, which means you have supervision. You are special up there. You oversee. I

was wondering if you can see what is invisible. Can you see an enemy who is hiding in camouflage? The enemy of our property rights, can you see who they are or where they are? I could show you. Some people were concerned about Agenda 21 at the last high school meeting and it was kind of poo-pooed. But Peter Drucker, who is a guru for socialism, he is the source of our Planning Commission according to what was given to the people in training. Peter Drucker is dead now but he had some far-out ideas about how we should use our land. If you don't know what Agenda 21 is, I would encourage you to look him up. It is a diabolical plan to usurp the authority of the local authorities. I think there is nothing worse than being in authority without any authority. If you delegate that authority to the Planning Commission, who do we have as people, to go to when we have a grievance? I know that is what this process is about and I'm glad you're listening but I hope your eyes will be opened. Bringing down America is very important. You might wonder where I'm coming, you all don't know me probably, you may know my husband. In the 60's when the hippie movement was in full swing, I heard an expression used to instruct those who would be hip be invisible. They don't like to be exposed. The step beyond being rebellious in looks and behavior which I was part of that whole thing. The step beyond that was to infiltrate society and change it. The best way to do that was to learn by Bill Ayers. He is the one who was involved in bombing and would love to see an uprising. He found that was not the right way, but by being invisible was the way, infiltrating like termites. This is what the hippie movement has become. It has evolved into the environmental movement, global warming, people who want to protect resources and not our property rights. If I were to list the acronyms of all the groups who have organized to do this agenda, it would mean nothing to most Americans. We have rights which are self-evident. Most Americans don't know what CPAP and all these things are, but that is intentional so they can work under the radar. I would ask you to use your supervision.

Ms. Jane Avery, Courthouse District – I wasn't planning on talking but when I realized what I was wearing, that I did want to cheer myself up with all the rain we've been having. This was done by a local artisan and it represents something that I stand for, which is solar power. I totally support all that has been said about taking care of and not allowing this pipeline. That whole industry is all about money. We all know that. I'm one of the local artisans, have been here for over 30 years and have had solar power for that long. At that time, it was cheaper to buy the panels than to get electricity into my little old house back in the hills near the Parkway. I am speaking simply to encourage that the next step, yes, we have to stop this pipeline absolutely. But the next step is to bring in the real energy that works. Having lived with solar panels for 30 years, it does work here. I do have to supplement it now and then when we have these long periods of rain but for the most part, we do have the capacity. What they've done at Hotel Floyd and Floyd Eco Village is pretty incredible and shows that it can be done. I would like to encourage our buildings in this area consider an option for getting into solar energy. The group, Solarize Floyd, I went to their meeting the other night, it was wonderful and inspiring. I encourage you to look at the next step because we have to solve these problems by changing where we get our energy.

Mr. Eddie Worth, Little River District – I really hate to change the subject here but I will. I live on Route 615, Christiansburg Pike, just beyond the Little River bridge. That road has gotten terrible. I just request that we ask VDoT, we've already talked with them about re-paving some of that road. They came in and patched part of it, which we appreciate, there were pretty

major holes. It is time to get on with the real deal on the paving. They've done the Montgomery County side. If you guys could help us out and push them along and have them look underneath that bridge at the Little River, it is falling apart. If you would like to take a look at it, I would be glad to walk down there with you. It is really scary when you look underneath. They have been down there and looked at it and deemed it safe, I can't imagine it being safe. If that bridge gets taken out, that will cause a lot of problems. I just ask for your assistance. Thanks.

Mr. Nick Piazza, Little River District – my wife and I are new landowners in the County, we live off of Shooting Creek Road. I haven't been involved long enough, I've lived out of the County, my wife is here now, so I'm not up to speed on all the issues, I haven't had a chance to research all the issues. One thing that is apparent to me is the incredible lack of respect that this company has shown this County. They have shown a lack of respect for this body, where are they? They are not here to talk to you or answer questions. They haven't talked to the community, to your constituents. If they had, there would be public meetings. They have shown no respect to the landowners because they are threatening to use eminent domain and they are threatening to use due process to take what we will not offer nor give. And so, as a psychologist, my inclination is to recognize that you will never be treated better than you will at the beginning of a relationship. And this is how they are starting it. It is an incredible lack of respect. I only expect to be treated worse and I expect it will have an effect on our quality of life as well as our environment. I would encourage you to resist if for no other reason than the lack of respect they have shown indicates to me that they won't respect us once they start breaking ground. Thank you.

Ms. Anne Armistead, Courthouse District – I wasn't planning to talk today but I think the lack of respect needs to be punctuated. In some of the research that I've been doing, they use third party contractors who are not identified and are trespassing on people's land who have said they don't want to be surveyed. This is in other areas. So I would suggest that if you have any contact with this company that you ask them to clearly identify their vehicles and to not trespass on private property land unless they have permission to enter. Thank you very much.

Ms. Diane Giesler, Courthouse District – I wasn't planning on speaking this morning either. I haven't heard one positive thing that this pipeline would do for this county. So when you look at how it would hurt us that far outweighs anything it can do for us. I think if you as a group who represent us want us to lose all the ground we've made in increasing our tourism or you want to chase people away and don't want to attract any new people to this county and you want to see the land values drop and thus your tax base, just ignore this and do nothing. But you do have the power to make a difference, to request things at least they do full environmental studies on everybody's property that would be affected or close by that would be affected. Make it difficult for them at the very least, to let them know that we're standing up against them. We just don't want them here. Thank you.

Mr. Fred First, Locust Grove District – we're going to hear the word environment a lot in discussions over the next couple of years. I just wanted to redeem that word since it has become sort of a political football. Environment is everything we take in, the air, the water, the sound around us, it is our ambiance. It is what nourishes us. I just want that to be understood going into this conversation. We're talking about what we draw our sustenance and identity from.

We'll see environmental concerns lists, but there is more to it than that, it is much deeper, more personal, more psychological environment than just the trees, water and soil. So when you hear the word environment, let's all think about it in a different way than we have in the past where it has become a politicized term. It is not, it is who we are and where we live. Thanks.

Mr. John Hopkins, Little River District – many of us are assuming that the Supervisors and the County Administrator have still not been contacted by the pipeline. Are we correct about that, you still haven't been contacted?

Chairman Clinger – that's correct, no contact.

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

Ms. Mara Robbins, representing Citizens for the Preservation of Floyd County, next appeared before the Board. She commented:

I wanted to start by saying that I'm 43 years old and this is really the first time in my life that I feel like I have an active relationship with my government and that is a sentiment that has been repeated to me a lot by a lot of folks here in Floyd. I just want you all to know how much I appreciate that, you've listened, you've been responsive, you're taking action and that's extraordinary and is unusual. That has not been the case with some of the citizen groups that I've talked to who are also resisting pipelines in some capacity or another. (Applause from the audience in agreement).

The first thing that I wanted to ask if you've had a chance to look at the Nelson County Board of Supervisors resolution requesting a meeting with Dominion which is happening today and whether Floyd County has made a draft or planning to draft a similar resolution requesting EQT and NextEra cease all surveying activity until they have had a public meeting with you and the citizens of Floyd County?

Chairman Clinger – we were going to discuss it after your part of the presentation. We've all looked at it and will discuss it later.

Ms. Robbins – I believe that would be a logical next step. It is basically a resolution saying we don't want it here. To put it in simple terms. I don't think we are at that stage yet. It seems to me that it would have to be filed after there is actually pre-filing taking place. It is a good step towards the future if nothing comes in between. I have a lot of documents here for you, some of which have been prepared for a community meeting that we're having on Thursday to let everybody know what we know so far. The first thing I wanted to share was a list of property owner concerns about the impacts. This is part of a much longer, much more comprehensive list. Like each of these bullet points has points that have been made. This was compiled by a landowner but it is a result from listening to a lot of other landowners who are being affected. Some of their primary concerns are disruption to the land, interruption, soil erosion, encumbrance to property, healthy soil, clean water, rock foundation, stability, huge rock hammers, drills, other equipment, safety, time, money, future and potential income, potential for political involvement, exposure to private interests, private and personal issues that can create moral and philosophical dilemmas, getting a fair use of our property, proper management, stress from dealing with this for potentially a very long time, invasive species, the path of soil and ecosystem disturbance all the way across the county leaves a path for non-native invasive plants and

trees, maintenance on the easement, poisons to be sprayed next to power transmission lines putting more of a burden on the neighboring eco systems, subdividing property for future generations. Like I said, there are a lot of points to this but this is a general feel for some of the things that people are concerned about. The other thing I have here are two different documents that have information for landowners. One is just a sheet, the other is actually a booklet that was co-created by Citizens Preserving Floyd County, this is a draft. We'll have the completed version by Thursday's meeting to hand out to landowners. I would greatly appreciate it if any of you have suggestions or ideas on this; I know you worked with Dominion in the past so any advice would be greatly appreciated. The other thing that we'd like to request is that any or all of you try to contact EQT and NextEra with a list of questions that we have and a sublist of safety questions depending on whether or not you're able to reach them. It is probably unlikely but we thought you might have a better chance than we would have. Some of the questions that would be ask in our estimation is who is on their project team, the director, manager, certificates manager, communications, community relations, what is their time line for surveying, the preliminary survey and the final one, what teams will be on the survey, what is their time line for filing, will they use pre-filing or the normal filing processes, will there be compressors or above-ground facilities in Floyd, where, how many and the distance in-between, could they avoid having them here, why is the line curving to the Southeast rather than a straight line. If you look at the larger map it is very odd that this pipeline is going through Giles, Montgomery, Floyd and Franklin. The shortest distance would not take it through any of those counties. It makes a big loop. Why? It makes no sense at all. A pipeline generally wants to go from one place to another in the shortest amount of time possible because it costs more to build it. They go out of their way. It seems to be that there is some sort of ulterior motive for this big loop. What is the width of the final easement or right-of-way? Is there a web site with project information similar to Dominion? Dominion actually has a really good web site that has a lot of good information for landowners with maps, timelines. They are being more forthcoming with information this time around. EQT and NextEra don't have a lot of information for us. Who are the end clients for the transported gas? Is it for domestic use or export? How much is contracted at this time with firm contracts? That is why Dominion cancelled their project because they didn't have a customer at the other end of their line. Where these gases are going and who is buying it is a really big part of this. One issue that has been brought up is whether the laws of eminent domain apply to exported gas. The Dominion pipeline going through Nelson County is going straight to a Duke power plant that is clearly for domestic use. If this gas is going to a transfer station that is taking it who knows where, to the coast of Florida and going who knows where. If the gas is for export, do the laws of eminent domain apply? I don't know, I'm not a lawyer but that's one of the things that we're exploring, as to whether there is a loophole there. When will they be holding a public informational meeting? These are just suggested questions. I'm sure you have questions of your own if they answer your call. The other things I have here are a copy of the Nelson County FAQ; it won't be the same as ours but gives a lot of good information, especially about the size of the pipeline. The one that Dominion is proposing is also to be 42" which is known as an exotic pipeline. To my knowledge, there has not been one built this large yet. So, there are different issues that we really can't predict based on the size. We also have a copy of the FERC landowner information handbook. We have an appeal that Floyd made to Dominion in 2003 that you probably have a copy of but I thought it might be useful because a lot of what we're talking about now with the protection is included. A copy of the Rappahannock resolution which basically says don't go through here. A letter to the landowner, you probably have

already, a copy without any identifying information that landowners have been receiving about surveying. There is a copy in here also of the Act to Amend Access from 2004 based on gas lines and may have something to do with issues of trespass. There have been some reports, I can't assure this, but there may have been trespasses that have taken place already by the field service. They have been showing up on people's property, going onto property without permission. There has been a precedent, I think in Massachusetts, that the County successfully filed a resolution based on trespassing by the survey company. That is worth thinking about. It looks like it may have taken place and we are encouraging any landowners who witness or suspect this, to call the Sheriff and post their property in a way that makes it clear that no trespassing is allowed. There are ways that are legitimate and ways that are not. The only other thing I wanted to mention was that there was some talk of there needs to be a special farm equipment easement over these lines if they are placed because they will not be safe for farm equipment to drive over the line unless there is a special structure built. Farmers need to be advised to negotiate for these easements and unfortunately I think that even if an easement is in place, the chances of farm equipment being driven over this by accident is pretty high and it stands to reason that it would also put our risk for accidents, ruptures, damage to the line, very high because we are an agricultural community. That is something to keep in mind over the long term. I apologize for not having a copy for everyone, only one copy but I can send items digitally. How can we help you at this point?

Chairman Clinger questioned the time and place of the meeting on Thursday night and expressed appreciation for the information brought forward.

Ms. Robbins – 7:00 p.m. at the Floyd Eco Village on Thursday, August 14. We have excellent support from the community. Our biggest problem right now is trying to figure out how to give everyone interested a job, because there are lots of people that want to help. We're getting our core group established to bring some organization. We have great researchers, legal minds, amazing environmental specialists, with all of that including Lydeana who has shared valuable information on the water table here. It has been a big job with everything happening really fast but it is coming together. The community support has been encouraging with everyone working together. That was one thing that Dominion tried to do, to split the neighborhood and pit neighbor against neighbor. I think the overall feeling here is we have to work together, to set aside personal issues or ideologies and work toward a common goal. One of the biggest requests we have is for the surveying company to identify themselves. This is shocking and traumatizing. They are being approached out of the blue. They are being approached without a phone call or letter. I don't know if that qualifies as trespassing, if it doesn't, it should. Whatever we can do to ease the landowners minds right now, we should do that. What would be the time frame for constructing such as resolution as the Nelson County one?

Consensus of the Board was for the County Administrator to draft a resolution for the Board's review at the next meeting and to contact the companies to extend invitation to attend the next meeting.

Mr. David Clarke, Virginia Department of Transportation, next appeared before the Board. He reported:

- Update on 6-year plan – there was a reduction in unpaved funds of about \$30,000. There will be an increase in 2016 but not back to the same amount. Will not affect current projects.
- Working on the Haycock project which will start later this month by State crews.
- Working on 2/3 mile section of Alum Ridge Road to straighten out some curves.
- Maintenance items – replacing culvert on Stonewall Road – should be done by August 22. Montgomery County is replacing culverts on their side of Route 612, about a 2 week project.
- Route 766 – notice provided for road closure for culvert, work should be done by September 12.
- Maintenance – mowing secondary roads; brush cutting especially at school bus stops; pipe replacement on Laurel Creek Road; milling of road around high school and will be paved later; White Rock Road – repairs; cutting of tree limbs.

Supervisor Gerald – appreciate paving in my area.

Supervisor Turman – need brush/tree limbs cut on Long Mountain Road – limbs are hanging down in the road. On Winery Road, at the very end of State maintenance – the road was paved and it is now higher than the driveway at the end so the water is cutting across the driveway. Could a culvert possibly be installed?

Mr. Clarke – we will check it.

Supervisor Yoder – Diamond Knob, I’ve already spoken to you about. Goff Road – culvert was washing out that I reported last month. I do not know if that has been taken care of.

Mr. Clarke – the pipe has been replaced.

Supervisor Clinger – Route 8 fill-in – I believe that has already been taken care of. We received a request from Mabel DeHart for guard rail on Route 8 south. There was a bad wreck there last week and we understand another one last night.

Mr. Clarke – I will turn that in to Salem, should not be a problem because of safety concerns.

Supervisor Clinger – Route 615 re-paving. When will that work begin?

Mr. Clarke – contractor has not begun that yet.

Supervisor Clinger – Old Mill Road, there is a culvert sinking that VDoT installed for a driveway.

Mr. Clarke – it is the property owner’s responsibility once we install.

Dr. Kevin Harris, School Superintendent, next appeared before the Board. He reported:

- Two bears went through the Floyd Elementary and Floyd County High School campuses – high school students were held in class until bears went off the property.
- First day of school today and everything went well.
- Presented copy of August 11, 2014 School Board meeting highlights.
- 1978 students enrolled for first day – will know final figures after 2 pm today.
- Provided picture copies of maintenance projects completed over the summer. Sheriff Zeman provided five trustees from the regional jail who painted for two days at Check Elementary gym.
- \$9000 worth of patching roads around the five schools. We still have lots of paving that needs to be done. The contractor stated that the roads are deteriorating quickly and need to be fixed.
- A grant application for security upgrades was submitted to the Department of Criminal Justice Services. We have received verbal approval of receipt of \$127,000 in grant funds. Over \$100,000 of the funds will go toward replacing all locks at the high school. The classrooms cannot be locked from inside. We will have a pass code entry system for other agencies such as the Recreation Authority. There will also be camera upgrades at all schools. There is a \$25,000 match which we included in the FY15 budget.
- We had also applied for various grants for the tennis courts to re-pave, paint, new fencing and new nets. Just received word from Ms. Ryan that a private contributor in the County gave a check for \$88,600 for all this work.
- The 6-month appropriation status – we are trying to understand what it means for us. Some of it is clear, it doesn't affect some categories. Some categories it does. I wish we could have talked a little bit before that. You did have the foresight to do Debt Service at 100% since it has to be paid up-front. We also have some other areas that are sort of up-front payments. We're really trying to figure out how to deal with technology right now because a lot of the technology budget deals with purchasing hardware and software that has to be paid up-front. We can't buy half of a contract to provide some of those services. I think the other areas we'll be able to manage. The technology area is similar to debt service. Once again, it is heavily front-load so we pay a lot of those things up-front. Remember too, that we have 4x4 block schedule so we have students who go to class for 90 minutes for 90 days and then that class is over. So, we're pondering a little bit how we deal with materials and supplies. They are usually bought up-front and disbursed throughout the year. A lot of materials and supplies you buy, the first semester class uses them and then the second semester class uses them. There will be some lag time between ordering supplies for the second semester. We're working through that and trying to do the best we can.
- Staffing report – we have 24 brand new teachers in Floyd County schools. We may have to hire a 25th. I interviewed a candidate yesterday. As I reported to you before, people are leaving Floyd County. Some of our most highly qualified teachers are leaving Floyd County. It is for one of a couple reasons, either they are going to higher salaries or jobs closer to their homes, or they are going back to where they are from so they will have support to raise their families. I have several, and the one who interviewed yesterday, who are trying to get closer to home for more family support. Many of the people who left were leaving for better salaries. I think we can all understand that. There are many school divisions throughout Virginia who gave raises this year to teachers, at least gave them a step. Since I've been here, we've basically given teachers between a 1.2-1.5%

raise and that was when the State gave us some money to do that with. Our teachers are getting behind. Remember the annual inflation rate for this area has been about 1.5% for the past three years so that comes out that the cost of living has gone up about 4.5%. Our salaries for teachers haven't met the cost of living and they are getting behind and looking for other options and leaving. I don't know how we control that. It takes a lot of time and energy to recruit people, hire people and make sure that we have a quality staff in front of our children. Again, we have never, Janet Harris has been around the system for quite some time. She cannot recall ever hiring this many teachers over the summer for a new school year. This is really unprecedented. I don't think, I could be wrong, I don't think anyone has left mad or unhappy with their teaching circumstances. I just think in an economy like we're in right now, people are looking at their options. When they can go to another school system and make more money, they are leaving.

- The remainder of the highlights are just informational items – updates in policies, plans, etc. The times for our annual school visitations are listed.
- We had nine people take advantage of our option to move between schools. We looked at eleven cases, nine were approved. The other two requests were to schools with over 20 students, our cut-off was 19. In some cases that was successful and hopefully the parents will be happy with the education at the new school.

Supervisor Gerald – I have been approached several times by citizens requesting the reduced speed sign be moved. There is not enough distance to slow down and they want it moved back.

Dr. Harris – I think that is a great idea. That occurs through your action, not mine. I have no authority over the road signs.

Supervisor Gerald – VDoT said they would issue the permit if the school paid for it.

Dr. Harris – I don't have money to pay for it. We would be glad for them to move the sign but I don't have funds to pay for anything like that.

Supervisor Yoder – I know that this is just the start of the year but I've had several people talk to me about the 3rd grade class at Check. They were worried about the size.

Dr. Harris – 26 students is a lot. We did have some TBA's built in the budget several years ago and I was able to hire a teacher and move them there. We don't have any TBA's in the budget right now and I don't have funds to afford another teacher.

Supervisor Yoder - is there a way to get copies of the salary scales for the last several years. I went on-line and got the one for last year.

Dr. Harris – we only keep the current year on-line but I could provide them. We have lots of different salary scales, do you want all of them?

Supervisor Yoder – yes please. I had some people asking questions about how they had changed over the years. I just wanted to review them before I talked to them.

Supervisor Clinger – I had requested last month from Dr. Pluska the employee classifications. We have not received that information which would help when we work on the budget.

Dr. Harris – it is public information, we can get that for you.

Supervisor Clinger – car drivers at Floyd Elementary, is there anything we can do?

Dr. Harris – I'd love to have a suggestion from you, it has been a problem for years. We could create another lane of traffic. As you go up the hill, that triangle is ours, we could create another road and drop them off behind the school and create a road up by the technology house. We could do that but it involves paving, which would have to be done because of the steepness. I think it would work. I understand it has been a problem for years. We could do a separate lane, take them behind the school, drop them off at the cafeteria entrance and then create a road up around technology and out behind the high school. That would work but it would take some grading and paving.

Supervisor Clinger – each year the line gets longer and longer.

Dr. Harris – when more kids rode the buses, it wasn't as much a problem. Now more and more parents are bringing them to school. It is the same at Auburn Elementary when I come through there in the mornings. They have police officers controlling traffic. It would take some money to do the change.

Agenda Item 8 – Old/New Business.

Mr. Campbell reported that 16 bear-proof green boxes had been ordered and delivered. Two boxes were placed at Station #3 fire station where we'd had a lot of trouble. We thought the boxes had been vandalized because the latches had been broken. We found it was poor design for unloading by our trucks. When the boxes are lifted up for dumping, the latch was getting caught on the truck cab. We are talking with the company and their salesman for credit back on the boxes and for solutions.

Supervisor Turman commented that the signs alerting people to close the box doors because of bears seems to be helping in his area.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and carried, it was resolved to adjourn to Tuesday, September 26, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Yoder – aye

Supervisor Turman – aye

Supervisor Gerald – aye

Supervisor Allen – absent

Supervisor Clinger – aye

Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator

Case C. Clinger, Chairman, Board of Supervisors