

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
ADJOURNED MEETING  
JUNE 19, 2013**

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, thereof;

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

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m., the Chairman called for the Public Hearing on the proposed FY14 budget and tax rates.

The County Administrator read the call for the Public Hearing. In further comments, he noted: The call for the public hearing and spreadsheet of the budget was published on June 6, 2013. The tax rates will be consistent with the current year at the same rates. A copy of the proposed budget has been on file for public viewing in the County Administrator's Office. It is anticipated that the FY14 budget will be adopted at the June 26 meeting. The revenue and expenditure levels are estimated by the Board to be \$30,294,713 next year. This figure contains all local, State and Federal dollars for all programs including our public schools. This total amount represents an \$186,160 increase or less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of 1% over the current year budget. Overall budget for next year beginning July 1 is similar to the current year's budget for the most part, the County will be maintaining current levels of service. One larger expense that we've had to plan for next year involves the mass reassessment of real estate. The Supervisors have to find \$175,000 to start that process, the contractor is in the process of being procured now and that work should start later this summer. There are no tax increases in the draft adjustments, nor fee adjustments contemplated. The Floyd County schools will receive \$6,979,144 in the local funds. Local funding for the schools is being increased by \$66,000. Additionally, \$250,000 is being carried forward from the current year's budget to FY14. The total budget for public schools is \$20,193,463. I'll note that the school budget amount of \$20,193,463 is fully contained within the County's budget which is \$30,294,713. At that level of spending for education, which is 67% of all total functions of the County. I say this to point out that the school budget is the most significant part of our spending plan and which the County taxpayers support the most. The budget deliberations, the Supervisors looked at everything really closely and I know they've done their absolute best to save expenses and to avoid tax increases. Their work was certainly not easy this year.

The Chairman called for comments from the public.

Mr. Jim Newlin, Vice President of the New River Land Trust – this is a volunteer, non-profit organization in the County. First of all, I want to thank you for the hard work, it has not

been an easy year, and I hope things will get better. The goals of the Land Trust are to preserve agricultural and forestal land in the New River Valley region. We feel we are an asset to help with that. We help Floyd County specifically establish, staff and provide mapping services for the Task Forces you had on land policy and agricultural/forestal viability. We helped with the Comprehensive Plan effort as well. With your help, the Land Trust has gotten the Virginia Outdoors Foundation to declare the Little River Corridor a Special Projects Area which will make it easier to preserve land along the river with conservation easements. That's our role as defined, to help people with conservation easements. Our budget is 85% plus all from private donors and a few grants that we apply for. We get a small amount of funding from two local governments in the region that are in our service area. We administer funds that one County provides to help landowners in that County who cannot afford the up-front costs if they want to put their land in conservation easements for items such as attorney fees, etc. In February, we wrote a letter asking Floyd County to provide us funding in the amount of \$500. I know you have your budget set but if there is any flexibility, we would appreciate it. We are a small organization. Since we started in 2002, we've helped preserve over 6700 acres in Floyd County through conservation easements. The land that is preserved, that land doesn't go to school, so there are no costs. We do agricultural land, forestal land, some commercial properties; don't cost you as much as what you get back in taxes as residential development does. People in Floyd County, at the public hearings you had on the comprehensive plan, they wanted to protect rural land and water. I think we help the community accomplish those things. Just wanted to ask for your consideration, if not this year, maybe we'll ask again next year. Thank you for your time.

Ms. Becky Howell, Burks Fork District – I want to thank you all, a great big thank you, for all the hard work you did to keep taxes consistent with this year. We all know that the cost of living is rising for everyone. Everyone is doing more with less. I want to tell you that I hope you will really look hard at maintenance. That's something that we have to do in order to not have big expenses in the future. Even though we have to cut back, that is one area that we cannot cut back on. Floyd Countians are known for their excellent work ethic. We have a lot of teachers and citizens in the County that work hard. They do a great job for the people here. The average wage in Floyd County is about \$27,000, almost \$28,000. The teacher salary scale for 2013-14 varies from \$37,000-\$52,500 with degree. I've been a teacher for a number of years and I know that teachers work hard. They deserve every penny they get. People say well teachers invest in their education and they deserve to be paid for that. A lot of Floyd County people are entrepreneurs and they have a big investment in their businesses too. There are about 2000 Floyd residents who have bachelor's degrees and approximately 5% of those are teachers, so there are a lot of people in Floyd who have invested in education. There are over 2500 citizens in Floyd County who are 65 or older and are living on social security and whatever funds they accumulated when they were working. Many of them have their money invested in interest bearing investments and you know what those rates are right now. About 55% of the people in Floyd County drive out of the County to work and you know how the price of gas cuts down on their disposable income. So I think we're all in the same boat, we all face rising costs, we're all working harder, some have reduced incomes, some are not able to have jobs because they've been lost. So I really want to thank you for not increasing the taxes for about 9000 people in order to give 500 people additional money. As we go through this year, I would urge you to find ways to make County government more efficient. I have a question which I'm sure you don't answer. The State provided \$140,742 as a 2% compensation supplement. I'm

wondering if we will have to pick that up next year. Is that just a one-time thing that the State provided or will they do that every year? Thank you.

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

Chairman Clinger noted that the Board cannot take further action on the budget until a one week period has passed.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Allen, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

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

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Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator

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Case C. Clinger, Chairman, Board of Supervisors